Nippon Times

No. 16,461 (THE 20th YEAR of SHOWA) TOKYO, TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 1945 Price 25 Sen.

AMERICANS FORCED TO SHIFT 2 DIVISIONS TO ALSACE FIGHTING

Attacks to Relieve U.S. 7th Army However Are Frustrated by Germans

Domei

BERLIN, January 14.—Two American divisions were withdrawn from the southern flank of the German salient and sent to the lower Alsace sector to relieve the critical situation of their 7th army troops, but attacks against the German wedge south of Bitsch were all frustrated during the past 24 hours. Eight consecutive American attacks against the German assault groups south of Wiesembourg and at Rittershofen were likewise all unsuccessful.

So far as the fighting in the Ardennes is concerned, however, nothing spectacular occurred yesterday. British formations are still following cautiously the German disengagement movements west of the Ourthe and left flank formations of the American 1st army is pressing southward toward Houffalize. They are still standing 14 kilometers north of the town.

Enemy pressure against the German flank positions also continued at Malmedy and Laroche. All breakthrough attempts, however, were repelled and cost the attackers dearly. At the southern flank, formations of the American 3rd army pressed northward from the Bastogne area to score a junction with the 1st army coming from the opposite direction. Local gains were made north of Bastogne where German counteraction was last reported under way.

Meanwhile, reports said that the American 1st and 3rd armies are undergoing a major reorganization. The British 2nd army presently attacking the western end of the German salient has been considerably reinforced by tank formations of the Canadian 1st army.

Also six tank divisions of the American forces have been so badly mauled and depleted that they are at present withdrawing and waiting for reinforcements.

GERMANS SET TO SMASH NEW SOVIET OFFENSIVE

Red Army's Vanguard's Pay Dearly In Drives Against Bolstered Reich Defenses

By YOSHIO MORIYAMA
By Arrangement With the Asahi

BERLIN, January 14, (By international telephone).—Along the entire Eastern Front, the Soviet troops opened their expected winter offensive. According to an announcement by the German military authorities, the Soviet forces in the central section of the former Polish territory started offensive action early on the morning of January 12, and the next morning, offensive operations were also begun on the East Prussian frontier. The point where the offensive was begun in the central area was the Baranov bridgehead established by the Soviet forces on the western shore of the Vistula River, and early in the morning of January 12, about 500 heavy artillery pieces and 900 high-angle guns simultaneously opened fire, and ground troops advanced westward.

The Baranov bridgehead, situated 190 kilometers south of Warsaw, had been maintained by the Soviets since July last year. Marshal Konjev, concentrated in the neighborhood of this brideghead about 25 infantry divisions, three tank divisions, and the Second and Sixth Soviet Air Corps.

However, it was clearly known by the Germans that the Red Army was intending to start a winter offensive. The Germans, therefore, had made full preparations to meet this offensive, constructing strong positions, adjusting the defense strength and perfecting defense strategy.

The actual battle situation is not yet clearly known, but judging from the explanations made by the Germans, the first advance units of the Red Army seem to have suffered considerable losses. Despite that fact, the following Soviet units persistently advanced, and a fierce battle is now raging.

In parallel with this offensive, the seven or eight divisions of the Red Army also started offensive operations from the Kaschau district, southeastern Slovakia, on January 13. This operation is reported to have been started for the object of preventing the movement of German reserve forces in Slovakia to the Baranov front.

On the East Prussian line, fighting started again in the area where stiff battles were fought last autumn. The German troops in this sector were also prepared for the Soviet offensive. Viewed from the standpoint of the entire war situation in Europe at present, this new Soviet offensive must be regarded as possessing much importance militarily and politically.

It is not yet clear whether the aim of this Soviet offensive is restricted regionally or whether it is the beginning of a great decisive offensive. But as it came just when it was politically observed, in connection with the recent new German offensive on the Western Front that, "the main forces of the Soviet Central Army could not move easily," this sudden activity on the Eastern Front has attracted the attention of entire Europe. This front is, in fact, becoming the "First Front" in Europe.

The German Army that succeeded in defending the East Prussian defense line last summer will of course overcome this second trial. The defense equipment in this area has been bolstered and the fighting spirit of German officers and men is very high. But Germany has not yet conquered the disadvantage of fighting a two-front battle, even though she had regained the initiative on the Western Front.

It has now been proved that the Soviet Army still possess great fighting strength. Though it is handicapped with extended supply lines covering several thousand kilometers, the Red Army detailed more than 100 divisions to the Hungarian Front and the Baltice area, but while the war situation in those two sectors has not yet been settled, the Red Army can afford to challenge anew the German forces in the central sector.

The present Soviet offensive and its relation to the political ties existing between the Soviet Union and the Anglo-American camp is a very interesting topic for study. Yet as the scale and objective of the new offensive are still unknown, it would be premature to discuss such a subject. Is it only a restraining operation in connection with the war situation on the Western Front? Is it the beginning of a real big-scale operation conceived independently by the Soviets? At any rate, a new battle has been started on the Eastern Front, and the people of Germany are now obliged to meet another trial.

PREDICTS LOWER STANDARD

Inevitable Fall in Britain's Way of Living Foreseen by Welles

Domei

STOCKHOLM, January 14.—The inevitable decline in Britain's standard of living at the close of the current year was predicted by Sumner Welles, former United States Undersecretary of State, in his article entitled "An Intelligent American Guide to Peace" reports the local newspaper, Svenska Dagbladet, in quoting a Reuter dispatch from New York.

Welles is quoted to have written that the close of this year will find Britain in no better position than she was in 1919. If Britain wants to maintain her prewar standard of living, she will have to export goods amounting to more than $1,500,000,000, a sum exceeding her total exports for 1939 when estimated at prewar monetary value. Welles asserted, adding that Britain's standard of living will see a considerable decline.

Welles further foresees greater difficulties for Britain owing to the freezing of pound credit. He also predicted that in the face of the universal tendency toward nationalism, the ties with which Britain has heretofore bound her colonies will weaken. Britain's destiny is no longer at her own disposal in regard to her trade, capital, investment and standard of living as well as to the security of the British Empire, Welles declared.

Dissolving Swiss Guard

Domei

MILAN, January 14.—The dissolution of the historical Swiss Guard as well as of the Papal Noble Guard is being contemplated by leading Vatican circles in view of the critical financial situation in which the Vatican finds itself. A commission of cardinals, according to reports from Rome, is examining the proposal to reduce the expenses of the Vatican.

Latvians Given Passports

Domei

STOCKHOLM, January 14.—All inhabitants of Latvia, according to Radio Moscow, have received new Russian passports which confirm the Russian nationality of the Latvian population.

ENTIRE EAST FRONT AFLAME AS SOVIETS LAUNCH BIG ATTACK

Fighting Opened Along 1,000-Kilometer War Area From Baltic to Danube

Domei

BERLIN, January 14.—Ignited by the big offensive launched by Marshal Ivan Konev's 1st Ukrainian army from the Baranov bridgehead on the Vistula, roughly 200 kilometers south of Warsaw, the whole Eastern Front has now been set aflame from the Baltic to the Danube with Red Army divisions taking offensive action along the roughly 1,000-kilometer front in their full-dress fourth winter offensive.

The last of at least three offensives broke out this morning west of Lublin and on the Narev front north of Warsaw. Late on January 12, the Soviet offensive was extended also to the East Prussian frontier sector.

According to German quarters, the Vistula offensive which was launched two days ago by Marshal Konev's 1st Ukrainian Army was carried out by at least four infantry and one tank corps and another seperate fighting group along a 40-mile front.

Reports said the Soviet divisions in their characteristic mass attacks pounded westward and latest reports said that the pressure point had shifted now to the region between the Vistula and the Nida and the southern foothills of Lysa Gora where fighting reached the highest pitch.

It is assumed that Marshal Konev is aiming to split the German armies in central and south Poland by driving a wedge to Kielce, rail junction, 93 miles southwest of Warsaw which links Warsaw and Kracow.

Strong German formations were reported grimly resisting the assault by Soviet infantry and tank columns and according to partial reports available thus far, 245 Soviet tanks have been destroyed in 48 hours.

The long-expected offensive on the East Prussian frontier was started after a two-hour artillery preparation in the region of Stalluponen and Pilkallen. The initial Soviet onslaught though extremely strong did not achieve its objectives and its spearheads were either stopped or driven back. German artillery fire against Soviet concentrations and battery positions paralyzed the Soviet's striking power considerably. Small Soviet gains were reported only west of Ebenrode (Eydtkuhnen) and at Schlossberg (Pilkallen). Fighting is now in progress at the penetration points in the northeastern border region of East Prussia. According to preliminary reports, 56 Soviet tanks were destroyed in that sector.

Early Visiting Europe

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 14.—Stephen Early, President Roosevelt's private secretary, will travel to Europe next month to make arrangements for the President's visit to France, according to a Washington report. It will be recalled that George Bidault, French Foreign Minister, declared a few months ago that Rooseveit had accepted an invitation to visit Paris.

New Hungarian Money Issued

Domei

BERLIN, January 14.—New Hungarian money has been printed by the Soviet Union in Siebenbuergen. It resembles exactly the old Pengoe notes with one exception; St. Stephen's Crown has been replaced by the Soviet Star.

U.S. Journal's Childish Attack on Red Army Blasted by Izvestia in Bitter Counterblast

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, January 14.—Launching another bitter attack on the American Navy and Army Journal which declared recently that the Red Army is only playing a small part in the war, the Izvestia stated yesterday that the Americans are certainly overestimating themselves if they think that the Red Army would seriously consider the childish utterances as to where and when the blow against the German army should be struck, says a Moscow report.

It is recalled that the American journal first complained of no fighting on the Eastern Front, then it said that the Hungarian operations were purely political, and further, it demanded an offensive on the Polish Front.

In this connection, the Izvestia said that the Americans are saying that the offensive in Hungary is only a secondary, insignificant operation, important insofar as the Soviet Union's private interests are concerned. But, the Soviet paper declared, the battle of Hungary has become one of the biggest battles of this war and, of all the recent operations, it has gained the greatest successes for the anti-Axis cause.

It appears, the Izvestia said, that the Americans want the Red Army to launch a big offensive on the Polish Front to give relief to the U.S. troops facing the big German counteroffensive on the Western Front.

Hungary to Pay Reparations

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, January 13.—Hungary must pay reparations to the Soviet Government and return all the terrifories taken from Rumania and Czechoslovakia, the Moscow journal, Pravda, declared yesterday, according to a Moscow report. The paper, however, said that Hungary would be granted national independence when the Germans are driven out from that country.

5 DE GAULLISTS IN REICH GIVEN DEATH SENTENCE

Condemned for Cooperating With Enemy—Proceedings Pending for Others

Domei

BERLIN, January 14.—Five French "De Gaullists" in Germany have been sentenced to death by the German courts for "assisting the enemy," Minister Paul Schmidt stated at the foreign conference on Saturday in reply to a question whether the prosecution of collaborationists in France still continued notwithstanding the German Government's note to the International Red Cross on December 4 of last year.

Minister Schmidt added that the German Government note ordering five De Gaullists in question be placed on trial had been drawn in consequence of the announcement made by the note which had stressed that the French Government would bear responsibility for what would happen in the event of a death sentence passed on collaborationists in France being carried out contrary to the recognized existing principles of law. Minister Schmidt pointed out that notwithstanding the German note, the prosecutions of collaborationists in France continued.

A number of men including journalists like Suarez and even women had been condemned to death by the French Provisional Government although the accused had done nothing except advocate "the European policy" in conformity with the attitude of the legal French Government, he said.

Schmidt went on to say that the five De Gaullists sentenced to death in Germany had cooperated with the enemy and thereby not only endangered the security of the German troops, but had been guilty of treason toward their own rightful Government. Proceedings were also pending against several other De Gaullists, Schmidt said.

KOO ASKS FOR BRITISH AID

Domei

STOCKHOLM, January 14.—Dr. Wellington Koo, Chungking Ambassador in London, invited British financial aid to Chungking in his address at a luncheon given in his honor by members of British industrialists on Friday, according to a London dispatch.

Dr. Koo stressed that the new regime in China would be further emphasized by a new commercial treaty which would be negotiated and concluded at the end of the war. He said that the new Government in China would welcome cooperation from abroad after the war. They would remove restrictions on human welfare, he said.

2 British Warships Sunk

Domei

BERLIN, January 14.—A British cruiser and a destroyer in a naval formation were sunk off the western coast of Norway by units of the German navy, it was announced today.

Suspending French Trains

Domei

STOCKHOLM, January 14.—All steam passenger trains in France will be temporarily suspended from January 16, says a Reuter report from Paris. Only electric auto rail and the short distance workmen's trains will be running.

GREEK FIGHTING RAGING DESPITE TRUCE SIGNING

British Attacked At Several Places in Southeastern Sector by ELAS Rebels

Special to the Nippon Times

ZURICH, January 14.—Although the truce in Greece comes into effect at midnight tonight, John Nixon, BBC correspondent, declared today that there has been considerable bitter fighting in Athens for several days, according to an Athens report.

He said that yesterday British columns were attacked at several places in southeastern Greece while the ELAS forces have already withdrawn from the port of Piraeus.

Meanwhile, it was reported that Regent Archbishop Damaskinos has offered to call a conference between the Government and the ELAS delegates, declaring that this would be his last effort to find a peaceful means to solve the Greek civil war. He said that the truce signed between Lieutenant General Ronald Scobie, British Commander in Greece, and the ELAS was merely a temporary military agreement.

It was also reported that in an attempt to clear up the question of hostages, the Government has appointed 25 committees each made up of three judges with the view to releasing those against whom there is no definite charge of bearing arms against the State. The EAM organization has defended the taking of hostages by the holding of EAM sympathizers by the Government.

50 PLANES RAID TAIWAN

China-Based Aircraft Attack Island But Cause Slight Damage

About 50 large enemy planes coming from the China area penetrated into the skies over the central and southern section of Taiwan at 11:40 a.m. on Sunday. By 1 p.m. all the raiders had fled westward after dropping some bombs, it was announced by the Taiwan Army in its communique issued at 2:50 p.m. the same day.

It was also disclosed that damage on the Japanese side was negligible.

The comunique follows:

"About 50 large enemy planes coming from China penetrated into the skies over the central and southern parts of Taiwan at about 11:40 on January 14. By 1 p.m. all the raiders had fled toward the western sea after dropping some bombs.

"Damage on our side was slight."

Oil Pipe Built in England

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, January 14.—The existence of a 1,000-mile long oil pipe linking up airfields and military depots in most parts of England was revealed today by the British authorities for they declared that this military secret is no longer of assistance to the enemy, according to a London report. It said that the pipeline was built within two years.

Drought Hits Argentina

Domei

STOCKHOLM, January 14.—Reports from Buenos Aires state that the drought continues to prevail in Argentina in the region south of the equator and the grain crop is expected to be only two-thirds of the previous year. Numerous head of cattle are reported to have already perished in the dry grassless plains.

43 OUT OF 60 B-29'S DOWNED, DAMAGED OVER NAGOYA AREA

Americans Drop Bombs on Precincts of Toyouke Grand Shrine, I.H.Q. Says

Altogether 43 B-29 bombers were blasted by Japanese Anti-Air Raid Forces in the counterattacking battle with the Mariana-based U.S. planes aggregating about 60 that raided Nagoya and its vicinity on January 14, the Imperial Headquarters announced in its communique issued at 2:20 p.m. on Monday.

One Japanese plane has not yet returned, it was added.

The communique follows:

IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS' COMMUNIQUE
2:30 p.m., January 15

"War results of the counterattacking battle on January 14 when enemy planes attacked Nagoya and its vicinity follow:

Shot down ..... 9 planes
Damaged ..... 34 planes

"One Japanese plane has not yet returned."

Suffer Great Loss

In their daylight raids over Nagoya and its neighboring districts on January 14, the Mariana-based U.S. air formations comprised of about 60 B-29 bombers suffered the loss of 43 planes shot down or damaged, or a loss of about 70 per cent of their total strength.

Promptly launching counter-attacks, Japanese Anti-Air Raid Units clashed with the B-29 formations over Nagoya, Mie, Wakayama, and their neighboring areas, blasting two-thirds of the raiders as was revealed by the Imperial Headquarters on Monday.

Due to the intensity of our attacks from land and air, the enemy planes were forced to break formation and flee in confusion with the result that they could not make direct hits on important facilities as well as factory centers.

IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS' COMMUNIQUE
7:20 p.m. January 14

"1. Coming from the Mariana Islands, about 60 B-29 bombers principally attacked Nagoya and its vicinity on the afternoon of January 14.

"2. The enemy raiders dropped several bombs in the precincts of the Toyouke Grand Shrine, destroying two lodging mansions and five sacred music halls.

"Except for the foregoing, damage caused to ground facilities on our side was negligible.

"3. As to the war results in the counterattacking operation, investigations are now being made."

About 60 Mariana-based B-29 bombers raided Nagoya and its adjoining districts as well as Wakayama and Shizuoka prefectures, and Ujiyamada City for about one hour from 2:40 p.m. till 3:30 p.m. on January 14.

Forty of the raiders passed over the Shikoku and Kii Peninsula areas on their way to Nagoya, while the remainder took the direct route over the Kii Peninsula.

TERRIFIC CLASH FORESEEN

Sea, Air Power Vital in P.I. Fight, Says Volkischer Beobachter

Domei

BERLIN, January 13.—"The success of the Japanese in destroying the American air bases in South China must be taken into due consideration in viewing the death struggle now going on in the Philippines," comments a naval correspondent of the German paper, Volkischer Beobachter, today, in reviewing the situation there.

Continuing, he says that naval and air forces will be the decisive elements in the war which is now being unfolded over an extensive battlefront. The American army is undertaking risky operations far from its base supported by heavily armed fleets and is making use of innumerable carriers to convey landing boats but this is apparently because of the deficient U.S. air forces in China, on Leyte and Mindoro Islands.

"On the other hand the strength of the Japanese fleet remains insuperable and as may be seen from the strong, defiant attacks of the Kamikaze Special Attack Corps the the struggle of the Pacific."

Imperial Remission Is Sought by Koiso For Outrage at Ise

Prime Minister General Kuniaki Koiso presented himself at the Imperial Palace at 9:30 a.m. on Monday and, on behalf of all the Cabinet Ministers who were sitting in session at that time, begged Imperial pardon for the failure to prevent the outrageous enemy bombing from being perpetrated on the precincts of the Grand Shrines of Ise on the previous day. Following the close of the Cabinet meeting, the Prime Minister issued a statement, in all awe and trepidation, expressing his regret over the deplorable incident and reiterating the Government's determination to carry on the war to the bitter end.

DIET SESSION TO RESUME SITTINGS ON JANUARY 21

Koiso and Shigemitsu to Speak On General and Foreign Policies

The 86th Regular Session of the Imperial Diet will be resumed on January 21 with the House of Peers holding a plenary meeting at 10 a.m., and the House of Representatives meeting at 1 p.m.

At the outset of the proceedings in the Upper House, Prime Minister General Kuniaki Koiso will speak on the general policy of the Government, and Foreign Minister Mamoru Shigemitsu on foreign policy. Prime Minister Koiso and Foreign Minister Shigemitsu will repeat the same speeches in the Lower House, while Finance Minister Sotaro Ishiwata will speak on the financial policy of the Government. The statements of the Ministers will be followed by interpellations.

In the House of Representatives, these interpellations will be made by Tsuneo Kanemitsu, Yadanji Nakajima, and Masayoshi Kimura. Representing the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association, they will cover not only the general and foreign policies of the Government, but other important matters including munitions production, food supply, transport, and labor. While voicing the sentiments and convictions of the people, they will urge upon the Government a vigorous execution of its policies.

The interpellations in the House of Peers will be made by Count Yoshinori, Futara, Dr. Masaharu Anezaki, and a few other members. Count Futara and Dr. Anezaki have already given notice of their interpellations, while the other members were to be selected on Monday at a liaison conference of the House of Peers groups.

Both the House of Peers and the House of Representatives will undertake preliminary examinations of the budget and legislative bills before the Diet session is resumed. For that purpose, the Upper House on Monday began daily meetings while the Lower House will meet on January 18 and 19 for the same purpose. The Government will send its representatives to these informal meetings.

Cabinet Passes Bills

The Cabinet held a session at 9 a.m., Monday at the Prime Minister's official residence, Prime Minister General Kuniaki Koiso and all other Ministers attending.

In addition to two draft bills relating respectively to the special accounts and the issue of national bonds, five other bills were discussed, Director Kunio Miura of the Legislative Bureau giving explanations on the Government proposals.

All these bills were adopted at the session which rose at 1 p.m.

Saves Wounded Yank

Domei

BERLIN, January 14.—A revealing instance of the German treatment of war prisoners is reported by Alex Schmelfuss, DNB's military correspondent on the Western Front. A Sergeant A. Zion of the U.S. 1st Army was shot in the lungs, and in order to save his life, a blood transfusion was carried out in a German hospital. Zion was greatly surprised to learn afterward that the donor of the blood was the very German soldier who had shot him. Zion's condition has considerably improved.

U.S. LOSES 1,000 MEN, 26 SHIPS DESTROYED IN LUZON STRUGGLES

Additional Enemy Battleship Sunk by Submarine, Imperial Headquarters Discloses

The American forces in the Lingayen Bay area are now gradually advancing toward the area fronting our position in the mountainous sectors on both sides of the Pangasinan plain from the seashore while a part of the enemy forces landed in the vicinity of Damortis north of San Fabian on January 11, the Imperial Headquarters announced at 4:30 p.m. on Monday.

Imperial Land Forces which are now counterattacking the enemy in the neighborhood of Damortis have sunk or damaged more than 14 enemy landing barges besides killing or wounding 1,000 of the invaders in the battles fought on January 11 and 12, the same communique disclosed.

Continuing their attack, Japanese Air Units blasted 12 U.S. warcraft including one destroyer and 11 transports in an attack on the enemy fleet on January 12 while a Japanese submarine also sank one enemy battleship in the waters west of Luzon Island, the communique revealed.

The communique follows:

IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS' COMMUNIQUE
4:30 p.m. January 15

"The war situation in the Lingayen Bay area, since last reported, follows:

"1. The enemy troops are now gradually approaching the area fronting our position in the mountainous sector on both sides of the Pangasinan plains from the seaside.

"2. A part of the enemy forces also landed in the vicinity of Damortis, north of San Fabian on January 11.

"Our Land Forces are now counterattacking them. The losses inflicted upon the enemy in the neighborhood of the said locality on January 11 and 12 follow:

Landing barges sunk or damaged .... More than 14
Enemy soldiers killed or wounded .....About 1,000

"3. Our Air Forces are now continually attacking the enemy warcraft. Of the war results obtained in their attack on January 12 those which have been confirmed follow:

Sunk .....7 transports
Heavily damaged and set ablaze..4 transports
Damaged .....1 destroyer

"Losses on our side were 17 planes of the Special Attack Corps. Moreover, two others of our planes have not yet returned.

"4. Our submarine also sank one battleship in the waters west of Luzon Island on January 12."

Heavy Losses Inflicted

Ever since the American troops of about three to four divisions strong landed in the Lingayen Bay area on January 9, Imperial Japanese Forces have been vigorously attacking the invaders from land and air, inflicting knock-out blows upon them.

Despite heavy losses, the U.S. invasion force is persistently attempting a stubborn forward drive and, having adjusted their position in the area near the landing points, are at present approaching step by step toward the Japanese position in the mountainous sectors on both sides of the Pangasinan plain.

Meanwhile, having been completely smashed by Japanese Units in a landing attempt near Labon, north of San Fabian, on January 10, a part of the American troops, in mobile operation, directed a landing in the area in the neighborhood of Damortis, north of San Fabian, on the following day, where a furious battle is now under way.

Counterattacking the landing troops, the Japanese sank or damaged a total of 14 landing barges, besides killing or wounding about 1,000 of the invaders in the two-day engagement on January 11 and 12.

Acting in unison with the Land Forces, Units of the Japanese Air Force, together with members of the Special Attack Corps, are also attacking the enemy fleets and convoys in and around Lingayen Bay day and night.

On January 12, our Wild Eagles sallied forth to attack an enemy convoy in the waters west of Ilo, blasting 12 U.S. war vessels, including one destroyer damaged and 11 transports, sunk or damaged.

In this attack, the Japanese lost 17 planes of the Special Attack Corps

(Continued on Page 2 Col 6)

combat power of Japan has not waned in the least.

"That England is also making preparations for an attack on Japan in the southern seas is an open secret. With all the countries pitching their strength, the momentous unfolding of the Philippine battle will witness the fiercest battles in

BRITISH FLEET IN PACIFIC REFITTED IN AUSTRALIA

Navy Under Fraser Believed to Be Participating in P.I. Battle With Yanks

Special to the Nippon Times

SHONAN, January 17.—It is one month since announcement has been made of the dispatch of Admiral Sir Bruce Fraser to Australia and the reorganization of the British Pacific fleet with its base here. During this time nothing concrete has been accomplished by the new fleet under Fraser's command, but of late the news of its arrival has time and again been broadcast while movements of the East Indian fleet, working in consort with the Pacific fleet have become brisker, being especially noticeable in the division of their strength in operations in the southern areas.

The British Pacific fleet which was originally navigated from European waters and concentrated first at an Australian base was reinforced by the British Asiatic fleet already stationed in the East. According to recent reports, the main strength of the British Pacific fleet, with its great cruising power and special equipment for operations in tropical zones and in the open sea is composed of two battleships, one regular aircraft carrier, several A-class and B-class cruisers and destroyers.

However, there is not one medium-sized warship included in the fleet which is most adaptable for fighting purposes while the outmodelled warships, refitted and supposed to come from Europe have not yet arrived and the huge docks at Sydney, will not be ready for use since it is not expected to be completed till next spring.

From the small estimate of £2,000,000 granted for the maintenance of the fleet up to June 1945, it may be seen that the actual strength of the much vaunted fleet falls far short of expectations and cannot be more than that of one task force. Captain Albert V. Alexander, First Lord of the British Admiralty, in declaring that the American fleet would fight the Japanese Navy in the Pacific waters while the British fleet would guard these waters has made it obvious that the duty of the newly organized fleet is nothing more than subsidiary in keeping up supplies.

British Fleet Active

However, following the statement made by Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Pacific Fleet, after his conference with Admiral Fraser that the British Pacific fleet would actively partake in the Pacific theater of war, it may be conjectured that the British Pacific fleet has actually taken part in the present decisive battle of the Philippines in conjunction with Nimitz's task force.

On the other hand, the actual strength of the East Indian fleet is reportedly comprised of five or six battleships, from two to five regular aircraft carriers, from six to 10 converted carriers, 30 destroyers, 10 cruisers and 30 submarines and in number [illegible] the former Asiatic fleet but as a result of having been [illegible] comparatively superior part by the British Pacific fleet, has greatly deteriorated in its strength.

Almost daily vociferous New Delhi broadcasts claim that "the East Indian fleet, practically unscathed, is carrying on the task of defending the Indian Ocean and guarding of the safety of India. This fact should be sufficient to dispel all fears that the Indian Ocean has been imperiled because the newly amassed British Pacific fleet has been concentrated for the defense of the Pacific." Such propaganda, on the contrary, endorses the truth of the fact that the Indian Ocean is indeed in grave peril.

The warships sent from Europe travel on without stopping to Australia and do not contribute to augment Britain's naval power in the Indian Ocean. The troops that were to have been dispatched to East Asia as soon as Germany was beaten cannot be weeded out from the Western Front due to Germany's recent offensives. The blatant assertions of the last three years that large-scale landing operations would be launched in the Indian Ocean cannot materialize for a time at least.

Nevertheless, it is not absolutely impossible for the enemy to push his air bases forward, strengthen his supply lines, encroach along the coast and attempt landing operations on a fairly large scale and carry on attacks against Japan's vital points in the South. Up to the time of the air raid on northern Sumatra on November 4 of last year, the enemy has launched three combined air and naval operations in the Indian Ocean. Also it is a known fact that the enemy task forces are showing persistent movements in the area. A fairly large enemy ground forces are still holding out in Ceylon. Then again the U.S. 20th Bomber Command is raiding Burma, Malai, Thailand and other areas almost every day and the air bases at Ceylon and Calcutta are said to have more than 100 B-29's there.

Judging from all of the aforementioned enemy activities, the Indian Ocean needs to be vigilantly watched and the Japanese Forces on the spot are lying in wait, fully prepared to meet any situation that may arise.

Civilian Casualties From Air Raids Rise In England in 1944

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, January 14.—British casualties suffered by civilians from air raids in December totaled 8,465 killed while 21,984 were seriously wounded, the Ministry of Home Security announced in London today. The total civilian casualty list for 1944 was given as 64,692 killed and 76,799 seriously injured.

BRITAIN EAGER TO HOLD WORLD COPPER MEETING

U.S. Said Renewing Contract To Buy Bulk of Supply From Northern Rhodesia

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, January 13.—Changes in the world copper position are becoming more apparent, and in the United States reports have been circulated lately which have found expression in the American trade press that Britain is sounding other governments about a world copper conference, reports a recent issue of the Economist.

According to the Economist, supplies authorities in the United States are renewing their contracts for the bulk of their purchase of copper from Northern Rhodesia, and discussions are now taking place in London to determine this year's production. As the Ministry's copper purchases in other parts of the British Empire have been transacted on the same basis as those in Rhodesia, it is presumed that they too will be affected by the new policy.

In Canada, where copper is largely a by-product, adjustments in production will depend on the future demand for nickel, lead, zinc and precious metals. The British Government's decision to curb production is understandable, writes the Economist. Although wartime consumption has been far in excess of the prewar level, substantial stocks must have been accumulated from the heavy wartime imports.

As the supply position in the United States also has now been more or less stabilized and the demand from other quarters is not very large, the time for adjustments in the current production has obviously arrived, the Economist points out. The British Empire, however, continues the journal, supplies only about one-quarter of the present world copper demands so that any arrangements resulting from the adjustment of production in Rhodesia, Canada and the smaller producing regions will before long have to be supplemented by other arrangements.

The first move toward a settlement of the copper problem must be the clarification of the British and American policies toward the disposal of Government-owned stocks which are believed to be heavy, the Economist points out. The United States is a self-sufficient market for its copper which is isolated from the rest of the world by a prohibitive import duty which is imposed to protect the high cost American production from low cost foreign competition.

The control of the extra United States market, therefore, should be directed toward stabilization of prices at a level which would stimulate consumption and thus tend to close the gap between potential production and demand, it is stated by the Economist. If the United States were included in the transitional regulation scheme, there would undoubtedly be attempts to raise international copper prices to a level acceptable to American producers.

It is pointed out by the Economist that such a position would not only be against the interest of consumers and Britain, the world's largest copper importing country, but it would also be against the long term interests of the low cost producers. In this direction, the British Government would have to be on guard in discussing copper problems with other countries, the journal concludes.

CRIMES INCREASE IN ITALY

30 Per Cent of Ship Cargoes in Naples Harbor Being Stolen

Domei

MADRID, January 14.—Chaotic conditions in Italy have resulted in an outbreak of crime, reports a Spanish correspondent in Rome. At Naples, which serves as an important anti-Axis supply harbor, 30 per cent of all ship cargoes are being stolen and these goods usually find their way into the blackmarket.

The luggage of the few passengers going ashore at Naples is often stolen before their very eyes, the correspondent stated. He added that as a result of this state of affairs the police have organized a great campaign against blackmarket trade, and during the past weeks 27,000 persons have been arrested, imprisoned and fined.

POLITICAL DISTURBANCE IN EUROPE WORRIES U.S.

Chaos in Occupied Areas May Force Country to Take Hand In Solving Thorny Problems

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 14.—The continued disturbed political conditions in the occupied areas of Europe is being watched with growing uneasiness in the United States and the knowledge is increasing that however much the United States Government would like to follow its traditional policy of taking no part in the solution of European political problems, it is likely to be forced to do so now by military necessity, according to the Washington correspondent of the Daily Telegraph.

The correspondent writes that at present the British responsibility for the political conditions in Italy, Belgium and Greece has enabled the State Department to maintain an air of detachment, and most commentators approve the British Government's action in supporting the existing Greek and Belgian regimes in their insistence that Communist and other resistance groups should surrender their arms.

Reactions to the political crisis in these occupied countries are grouped under three general views by the News Chronicle, as follows:

1) Pro-Government. It argues that the British and American armies cannot allow chaos behind their lines and must support a constitution, which often means a prewar government, in the "liberated" country until it is possible to arrange a free election in that country.

2) Anti-Government. A liberal and radical-view that when Britain and the United States support regimes strained with too recent marks of Fascism or appeasement, they are delaying the popular hopes of real democracy and thwarting the will of the people and encouraging Communism.

3) Isolationism, namely, Britain and the Soviet Union are playing power politics and the United States should have nothing to do with it.

According to a recent article in the Manchester Guardian entitled "Responsibility," Belgium is "indulging in the luxury of a general strike while the chamber meets behind barbed wire." In Greece, the Government seat is said to be in a perpetual state of crisis relieved only by the constant resignation of ministers. The Italians, "apparently unable to appreciate the pleasures of a coalition government," are unwilling to entrust their country to any one party. And the Poles are "now contemplating with strange equanimity a further subdivision of the London half of their Government into two new factions," altogether "a depressing picture."

No Power or Responsibility

In order to be able to function properly, states the article, a popular government must have both power and responsibility; at present the governments of the occupied nations have neither. Though they are meant to represent the popular will, they have no means of testing. Elections are impossible for many months, and such assemblies as exist to guide them are either out of date or newly appointed by "rough and ready" methods.

It is true, continues the article, that in most of these countries the press is free, but it is always difficult to tell whether "the noise is made by one man shouting or by many men talking quietly." In most cases these governments also lack instruments of power, that is, transport, communications and police, and in all, what little power they have must be shared with the anti-Axis armies fighting on or through their territories.

The article points out that in these circumstances, it is only natural that political leaders should sometimes appear to behave in an irresponsible manner. Italy providing the best example. There is supposed to be a democratic government representing the Italian people in Rome, the article stresses, but in fact this government has neither power nor responsibilities. In all the things that matter, the power that is held by the Allied Commission is far more obvious to Italians than to foreigners.

The article continues that the government was a coalition of six main parties, but no one knows the strength of the parties, and there is no chamber or assembly in which this can be tested. Everyone knows what Italy needs most—food, work, transport, raw materials, it states but neither the government nor the Anglo-Americans can find these things "until the Germans are driven from the country."

In the meantime, the temptation "to play the game of politics" is irresistible to a nation deprived of its outlet for 20 years, it is pointed out. And until the war is over, until elections have been held, until the government has real power as well as responsibility, it will remain a game.

Effect on Italians Bad

Unfortunately, this state of affairs is likely to have its worst effect on the Italian people, the article opines, and points out that it must be remembered no Italian under 40 can have any memory of parliamentary government. Of the present leaders, Count Carlos Sforza and Ivanoe Bonomi are 71, Benedetto Croce 78, and General Orlando, mentioned as a possible premier, is 84. To many young Italians, the article comments, it must appear as if democracy were a monopoly of the aged.

"Cold, hungry workers are disillusioned, and they wonder what it is all about," states the article. "In these things, therefore, the Allies must bear a large responsibility: first, to do all in their power to improve the economic situation and especially to increase the supply of food, and second, Allied representatives must be very careful in dealing with politics."

A bad blunder is said to have been made recently by the British members of the Allied Commission in Rome, when all parties agreed to Sforza as the Foreign Minister and they were told that he would be unacceptable to the British Government. It is pointed out in the article that the reasons offered for this veto appear highly questionable, and worse still, were not shared by the United States Government. In fact, U.S. Secretary of State Edward Stettinius was prompt to dissociate his Government from the British action.

The article concludes with the remark that the inevitable natural result has been to unite the Italian press and parties in opposition to the British Government, now regarded as being hostile to Italian democracy, and they are determined to introduce a reaction in its place. As one comment puts it, "this famous popular Italian government of anti-Fascist coalition turns out to be a government nominated by the Allies, and revolt and disgust are beginning to appear among the mass of the population."

Such feelings may be unfounded, states the article, but they are "hardly surprising, especially when the British Government is being popularly identified with conservatism in Belgium and Greece."

"Nothing could be worse for our reputation," the article stresses, "nothing could be worse for the future of Italian democracy. It would be better to have pure unadulterated AMGOT than a representative government which represents nothing except the wishes of the British section of the Allied Commission."

AMERICA CONSTRUCTING NEW PASSENGER BOATS

Meant for War Duty But Step Seen Preparation for Post-war Merchant Fleet

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 14—The United States is now building a liner and six passenger ships whose immediate future is apparently bound up in the Pacific war but which can be expected to play an important postwar role as part of the American merchant fleet, revealed the Washington correspondent of the News Chronicle on December 2.

The Maritime Commission revealed that the new ships designated P2S, are 606 feet 11 inches long. A number of these new ships are already in service. Also coming on the way now are new types of fast cargo ships called C1 which are more than 522 feet long with a capacity of 14,560 tons. Up to now the smaller C was generally believed to be topping the wartime shipping program.

The Army Technical Service Command is now testing two huge new gliders. One, which will carry six tons, has a wingspan of 105 feet, is 67 feet long and will accommodate a two-and-half ton truck. The other has a capacity of five tons and is notable for its twin tail booms and plexi glass doors.

Meanwhile, the Journal of Commerce and Shipping telegraphed reports on November 15 as follows:

The United States shipyards delivered during October 145 ships representing 1,310,295 dead-weight tons, including 53 units for military use. This is the answer of the United States merchant ship builders to the pleas of the Navy Maritime Commission officials for a more rapid production of assault vessels.

Of the 53 vessels delivered to the armed forces, more than half will be used as combat loaded transports, combat loaded cargo ships and navy transports. Eleven others were naval tankers, frigates and army transports while 30 were of the Commission's long-range fast type, consisting of seven Victory, five C-type, and 18 standard tankers. Others delivered during October were 51 liberty, nine coastal, one concrete cargo, and one concrete barge.

Facts Worth Noting

Yugoslav Government

King Peter II
Ivan Subasic—Premier and Foreign Min.
Vladimir Bakaric—Vice Foreign Minister
Gen. Dragoljub Mihailovitch—War, Navy and Air Ministers
Joseph Smedlaka—Chief of Foreign Affairs Dept.
Marshal Joseph 'Tito' Brozovitch—Commander in Chief of Partisan Army
Vladeta Milichevitch—Ex-Home Minister
Bozidar Puritch—Ex-Premier
Slobodan Jovanovitch—Ex-Premier, Ex-Foreign Min. and Ex-Deputy War Minister
Juraj Krnjevitch—Ex-Deputy Premier and Ex-Minister of Posts, Telephones and Telegraphs
Miha Krek—Ex-Deputy Premier and Ex-Public Works Minister
Milan Grol—Ex-Communications Min. and Ex-Deputy Public Instruction Minister
Juraj Sutej—Ex-Finance and Ex-Commerce and Industry Min.
Milos Trifunovitch—Ex-Public Instruction Minister
Milan Gavrilovitch—Ex-Justice Minister and Ex-Agriculture Minister
Dr. Srdjan Budisavljevitch—Ex-Social Welfare and Public Health Ministers
Jovan Banjanin—Ex-Minister of Forests and Mines
Milules Trifunovitch—Ex-Premier
Dr. Joseph Torbar—Ex-Postmaster General
Dr. Radenko Stankovitch—Ex-Regent
Dr. Zets—Ex-Regent
Dr. Ivo Perovitch—Ex-Regent
Gen. Richard Dusan Simovitch—Ex-Premier
Gen. Petar Pesitch—Ex-War Minister
Dr. Marco Nintchitch—Ex-Foreign Min.
Bozidar Maksimovitch—Ex-Education Minister
Dr. Lazar Markovitej—Ex-Justice Min.
Dr. Vladko Macek—Ex-Deputy Premier
Dr. Dzafer Kulenovitch—Ex-Forestry Minister
Gen. Ilitch—Ex-War Minister
Dr. Ivo Andreas—Ex-Commerce Minister
Smolian Barisa—Ex-State Minister
Nikola Beslitch — Ex-Communications Minister
Srdjan Budasavljevitch—Ex-State Min
Alexander Cincar-Mirkovitch—Ex-Foreign Minister
Branko Cubrilovitch — Ex-Agriculture Minister
M Tsvetkovitch—Ex-Premier
Gen. Simovitch—Ex-Premier
Gen. Milan Neditch—Ex-Premier
Col. Pirc—Chief of Air Staff
Col. Ivan Ribar
Gen. Vladimir Velevit
Gen. Tervitch
Stanoye Simitch—Ambassador to Moscow
Illiya Choumenkovitch—Minister to Turkey
Constantin Fotitch—Ex-Ambassador to U.S.
Vladimir Milanvitch—Charge d'Affaires in London
Dragoslav M. Protitch—Counsellor in London
Gen. Milorad Radovitch—Military, Air and Naval Attache in London
Pavle Yevtitch—Press Attache in London
Dr. Velyko Milenkovitch—Secretary in London
Voyslav Voutchkovitch—Same
Fuad Azabagitch—Same

HURLEY'S CHUNGKING POST SAID TOUGHEST IN WORLD

Time Says Chinese Approve of His Appointment as U.S. Ambassador

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, January 14.—This week Major General Patrick J. Hurley, one of the toughest-minded United States diplomats, began his work as Ambassador to Chungking, probably the roughest diplomatic post of World War II, reported the American magazine Time on December 4 in an article which appeared in the Foreign Relations section. The Time's article follows:

Major General Hurley, ramrod-backed and handsome at 61, has already been acting as the U.S. Ambassador to China for four weeks. Now, President Roosevelt has sent his appointment to the Senate. "General Pat" landed in China last September to confer with Chiang Kai-shek on the radically low point in China's fortunes.

The Chungking Government, after seven years of war, is tottering on the brink of economic and military disaster. With the recall to Washington of Joseph Stilwell from his post as Commander in Burma, China, and India, and Ambassador Clarence Gauss, Hurley took over the thankless monumental job of watching out for the best interests of both the United States and her ally China.

Born in an Indian territory, Hurley began work at 11 as a mule boy in a coal mine. Oil and a dash of law made him wealthy. After four years as President Herbert Hoover's secretary, he dabbled in Washington lobbying and became as an outspoken anti-New Dealer as any ex-office holder. But Roosevelt tapped him early in World War II for the wide variety of ticklish diplomatic junkets which have carried him at least three times across both the Atlantic and the Pacific and into the six continents—to Moscow, Canberra, Cairo, Kabul, Natal and points between and beyond.

The Chinese who believe with some reason that the one-time-oilman Hurley has a direct pipeline to the White House, in general approved the choice.

"Pat" has been on warm personal terms with the Generalissimo ever since his arrival. For Hurley there was the added good news that even as Ambassador he could still wear the uniform he dearly loves.

MORE MUNITIONS BOUGHT BY BRITAIN FROM U.S.

Imports in 1943 Exceed Those In 1942 by Three Times, Figures Reveal

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 14.—The British imported from the United States 658 million pounds sterling worth of munitions in 1943, according to figures given in the Board of Trade Journal, reported the Manchester Guardian on December 2. This was more than three times the value of imports in 1942, the first year that munitions imports were recorded separately.

The total value of imports from the United States last year was 1,099,700,000 pounds, or more than double the value for the previous year. In 1939 it was only 117,300,000 pounds.

Imports from America for four years during 1940-3 aggregated 2,319,500,000 pounds. Imports from the British countries overseas rose from 358,102,000 pounds in 1939 to 556,900,000 pounds in 1943.

From foreign countries other than America, they fell from 410,100,000 pounds in 1939 to 188 million pounds in 1942, but picked up again in 1943 to the total of 218,100,000 pounds.

Imports from the British countries in 1943, although about the same in value as those in 1940—548,500,000 pounds—after the reductions in 1941-2 were much less in volume.

The drop in import from foreign countries in 1942 is partially accounted for by the loss of the supply sources in the Far East and the 1943 recovery was probably due to the "liberation" of North Africa.

The volume of non-munition imports in 1943 was 21 per cent below the prewar figure. About half of the re-exports in 1942-43 were munitions. The re-export trade which was largely with the continent, shrank to less than one-tenth of the prewar trade.

With food and animal feed stuff imports drastically cut and by other cuts and new measures, much greater success was achieved than during the last war in arranging import programs. The 1942-43 imports were under the 34 million tons of dry cargo in 1917 or 30 million tons in 1918.

British M.P.'s in Stockholm

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, January 14.—The British parliamentary delegation including representatives of both Houses of Parliament arrived here today on its way to Moscow.

Grew Again Warns War Against Japan Will Be Bitter One

Domei

MADRID, January 14.—A warning that the Anglo-Americans should foster no illusions regarding the war against Japan despite the present situation in the Philippines was made by Joseph C. Grew, former U.S. Ambassador to Tokyo and now Undersecretary of State, to press representatives today, according to an EFE report from Washington. Grew is said to have declared that he knew the Japanese people well enough to prophesy that setbacks would only cause them to redouble their efforts, and that the war would be a long and bitter one.

Fuehrer's Headquarters

January 14

The winter battle in the Ardennes increased to new violence and our tank and infantry formations throughout the day were engaged in grim fighting with American divisions thrusting against the entire front salient. Enemy attacks south of Malmedy were frustrated while southwest of Vielsalm an attempt by a strong enemy formation to break through in the direction of Houffalize was brought to ought by our counterattacks. Also in the region east of Bastogne the enemy made only little headway notwithstanding the greatest concentration of forces.

In the fighting area of Hatten and Rittershofen in Alsace, the Americans eight times repeated their attacks to eject our troops from the captured Maginot Line but their attacks collapsed. From Rheinau to Erstein the entire region between the Rhine and the Ill was mopped up from the enemy.

Since January 1, 520 enemy tanks were knocked out on the Western Front or captured and more than 5,000 prisoners taken.

From central Italy and the Balkans, important fighting actions are not reported.

In Hungary little fighting activity between Lake Balaton and the Danube continues. Soviet attempts to break through from the east into the center of Budapest under cover of the night were frustrated by our garrison while north of the Danube, several groups of our assault spearhead joined and further reduced the enemy penetration area.

In the Hungarian-Slovakian border region the enemy continued his attacks between Blauenstein and the Hernad River with numerous concentrated divisions at the old focal points. Except for a few smaller penetrations where heavy fighting is still raging, all attacks were repulsed.

In the Baranov bridgehead the focal points of the defensive battle against the new major offensive by the Soviets shifted to the region between the Vistula, Nida and the southern foothills of Lysa Gora. In the depth of the main fighting field our formations grimly resisted the assault by enemy infantry and tanks. According to reports so far at hand, 245 enemy tanks were destroyed in the first two days of the battle, of which 134 were smashed by one tank corps on one day.

In the East Prussian frontier region, the enemy started the expected large-scale attack in the Ebenrode-Schlossberg area, after two hours of strong artillery preparation. The concentrated counter-blow by our artillery against the concentration areas and battery positions of the Soviets paralyzed the enemy attacking power. In hard fighting our troops checked the onslaught on the main battlefield of several rifle divisions which were supported by numerous tank brigades and according to preliminary reports destroyed 56 enemy tanks.

In the northern part of the Niemen bridgehead, our garrison warded off strong Soviet attacks in swift counter-thrust.

Cities on the Rhine and the regions close to the front in the west were bombed by Anglo-American terror fliers yesterday. At night the British flew into the region of the Pommeranian bight and night-fighters and A.A. artillery of the air force downed 21 four-motored bombers.

London was subjected to our long distance fire during day and night yesterday.

Off the western Norwegian coast, a German convoy attacking a formation of British naval forces sank one cruiser and one destroyer.

SOVIETS GET SUPPLIES THROUGH DARDANELLES

Turkish Permission Obtained, Says British Spokesman; New Route Reduces Time

By Arrangement With the Asahi

STOCKHOLM, January 14—New war supplies have been shipped through the Dardenelles to Soviet Russia for some time with Turkish permission, the British Foreign Office revealed today, according to a London report.

The British spokesman stated that the supplies had not been previously sent through the strait because of the danger of air attacks. He added that shipments began without objection of the Turkish Government after German air bases in the Ionian Sea and the Balkans had been neutralized by the anti-Axis.

He pointed out that by the new route, through the Dardenelles, it has greatly reduced the time needed for shipment from the United States eastern coast by 10 days, it also cuts the necessity for using the round-the-way trip from Norway's northern coast to Murmansk and furthermore cuts off 2,000 miles from the overland trip from Iran up to the Soviet Union.

Supplies Sent to U.S.S.R.

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, January 14.—The Persian Gulf Command announced on January 4 that it has now shipped 4,000,000 tons of Lend-Lease supplies to the Soviet Union from the United States, according to a Teheran dispatch today.

The report also announced that virtually all rail rolling stock and other easily movable equipment used in Iran by the United States forces are now being reloaded into ships.

U.S. Loses 1,000 Men, 26 Ships Destroyed In Luzon Struggles

(Continued From Page 1)

and two other Japanese aircraft which have not yet returned.

In conjunction with this attack, one of the Imperial submarines attacked the American fleet west of Luzon Island, notably in the area west of Iba, and sank one battleship.

Meanwhile, it has been ascertained that the Kikusui Air Unit of the Japanese Special Attack Corps blasted more than 20 American warships in an attack on the enemy fleet in the neighborhood of San Jose on Mindoro Island on December 14 last year, a day prior to the U.S. landing on Mindoro.

9 Downed at Kendari

Domei

SOUTHWESTERN PACIFIC BASE, January 15.—Japanese Forces in Kendari shot down nine enemy planes and damaged seven out of an aggregate of 40 B-25 and P-38 enemy planes that attacked the district in daytime of January 12.

The Sumitomo Bank, Ltd.

Head Office: OSAKA

Capital Subscribed ¥70,000,000
Capital Paid-Up ¥50,000,000
Reserve Fund ¥72,650,000

President
Hayashi Okahashi

Home Offices

Amagasaki	Okayama
Fukuoka	Onomichi
Hikari	Osaka
Hiroshima	Saga
Kobe	Sapporo
Kokura	Shimonoseki
Kumamoto	Tokyo
Kure	Wakamatsu
Kurume	Wakayama
Kyoto	Yahata
Moji	Yanai
Nagoya	Yokohama
Niihama	

Overseas Offices:
SHANGHAI and DAIREN

General Banking and Foreign Exchange Business Transacted

The Yasuda Bank Limited
(Yasuda Ginko, Ltd.)

HEAD OFFICE:
1, 1-chome, Ohtemachi, Kojimachi-ku, Tokyo
Capital Subscribed ..¥160,000,000
Reserves ¥120,400,000
Chairman of the Board of Directors:
HAJIME YASUDA, Esq.
Director and President:
HISOMU SONOBE, Esq.
Executive Director:
SEIICHI ANNEN, Esq.
Managing Directors:
ABAKU NAKAJIMA, Esq.
TOUJI URABE, Esq.
HIROMITSU TAKEUCHI, Esq.
TOSHIO OTSUKA, Esq.

The Bank is now in command of the services which it has secured from many correspondents over the world, and is able to offer accommodation for all kinds of banking facilities foreign and domestic

Foreign Business
Tokyo Head Office

Osaka Branch: Koraibashi, Higashi-ku.
Kobe Branch: Sakaemachi-dori.
Yokohama Branch: Honcho, Naka-ku
Otaru Branch: Ironai-machi.
Dairen Branch: Yamato-Cho-dori.

SACRILEGIOUS BOMBING ROUSES ENTIRE NATION

Vengeance Vowed Over Wanton Attack of Grand Shrines—Odachi Expresses Regret

The righteous wrath of the entire people of Japan has been roused over the wanton bombing of the sacred precincts of the Ise Grand Shrines by enemy B-29's that raided the Nagoya district on the afternoon of January 14.

A formation of three B-29's appeared over the precincts of the Outer Shrine at 2:53 p.m. and simultaneously dropped their bombs on the buildings and the open spaces of the Shrine. Five wings of the Kaguraden, or the stage for the shrine music, and two wings of the sanctuary were hit. The sacred object of worship, however, remained unharmed.

As there are no factories or other important installations in the proximity of the Shrine, it is perfectly obvious that the enemy had contemplated this act of sacrilege from the first. Needless to say, the blood not only of the inhabitants of Ise but of all the Japanese nationals boils with fierce indignation and the fighting spirit of the Japanese people now burns at white heat.

Profound regret has been expressed by the Government authorities over the destruction of a part of the Grand Shrines of Ise.

Predictions Come True

In anticipation of enemy blind-bombings, Prime Minister Kuniaki Koiso stated on December 8, "Ene.y bombing attacks will undoubtedly further consolidate the unbending fighting spirit of the Japanese people. Such wanton bombings will not only kill innocent non-combatants, but will destroy historic relics and even sacred places. Should the enemy conduct such indiscriminate bombings, the Japanese will surely retaliate against the enemy. Every time we witness sacrifices exacted by the enemy, it will further heighten our fighting spirit." The Prime Minister's apprehensions and fears have come true, and the 100,000,000 people of Japan will never rest till they revenge themselves upon the enemy.

At present, investigations are being conducted in connection with the Sunday bombing, but the fact that the enemy raiders were not able to drop their bombs on exact targets due to furious counterattacks by Japanese Anti-Air Units attests to the ferocity of the aerial duels.

Odachi Expresses Regret

In connection with the enemy bombing of Toyouke Shrine of the Grand Shrines of Ise, Shigeo Odachi, Home Minister, commented as follows:

"It is a matter of exceeding regret that some damage has been caused to a part of the sacred precincts of the Toyouke Shrine. Most fortunately the main sanctuary is safe and the damage has been limited to the least possible minimum. The enemy's violation of the sanctity of the hallowed precincts calls forth feelings of boundless abhorrence and indignation. The enemy's intention has now been clearly revealed and consequently the entire people of Japan have further strengthened their determination to crush the enemy."

BA MAW SENDS MESSAGE ENCOURAGING P.I. PEOPLE

Sympathy and Firm Support Pledged by Burmese Leader To Embattled Islanders

Domei

RANGOON, January 15.—Encouraging the Philippine people who are now locked in fierce battle with the American invading forces, Prime Minister Dr. Ba Maw of Burma dispatched the following message to the Filipinos yesterday:

"The devastating battles now raging in the Philippines will decide not only the destiny of the Philippine people, but on the outcome of the Philippine operations hinges the destiny of all the peoples of Greater East Asia. We the Burmese who are also combatting the common foe, naturally regard the Philippine operations as their own. We are in sincere sympathy with the Filipinos who are shedding their blood in their struggles to realize freedom for East Asia.

"As President Jose P. Laurel of the Philippine Republic has declared, we are confident that the Philippine people will safeguard their country with their lives no matter what difficulties may be in store for them. Abiding in the confidence that justice will finally prevail, the Burmese people pledge to fight to the last. Before closing, I should like to pay high tribute, on behalf of my countrymen, to the courageous endurance, loyalty and bravery of the Filipinos and the Japanese Forces who are engaged in fierce battles against the enemy invading Japan."

5 Authorities Win Asahi Cultural Prizes For Contributions to National Progress

The presentation of the Asahi Cultural Prizes for 1944 to five authorities in appreciation of their outstanding contributions to national and cultural progress was announced on Sunday.

The recipients of the prizes include Dr. Yoshio Nishina, head member of the Scientific Research Institute, for his works on chemical elements and cosmic rays; Dr. Sadanobu Senoo, Professor at Chiba Medical University, for his researches on arterial injection; an anonymous person whose name will be made public following an expected announcement by the authorities concerned, for an item relative to aviation; the East Asia Archaeological Society represented by Kozaburo Shimamura for archaeological researches on Mongolia; and Manzaburo Umewaka, noted Noh player and a member of the Imperial Arts Academy, for his cultural contributions through the Noh play.

The ceremony of presenting the prizes will be held at the Asahi Newspaper Company at 10:30 a.m. on January 25 and a commemorative lecture meeting will be held at the company's lecture hall at 1 p.m. the same day.

The Asahi Cultural Prize was inaugurated in 1929 and 109 persons have hitherto received the awards. Starting with this occasion, the monetary award has been increased from ¥3,000 to ¥5,000.

News and Views

Manpower Shortage in U.S.

By ISAMU SUZUKAWA

U.S. War Secretary Henry Stimson's urgent call Thursday for an increase of 25 per cent in the quota of draftees for March as compared with January and February, and his statement that "there seems to be no escape from calling into the armed services substantially all physically qualified men below 30 years of age from factory, farm and government" must have come as another distressing news to the American public which had been led to believe that the war was "practically over."

It will be remembered that Assistant Secretary of War Patterson had declared in the House Military Affairs Committee the day before that 1,600,000 more persons will be needed for the war effort in the first half of 1945, the figure to include 900,000 for military service.

These utterances by the U.S. war leaders, together with Roosevelt's state of the Union and budget messages to the newly convened 79th Congress which contained outright confession of manpower shortage in both the armed services and war industries, are further indications of the plight of the United States as regards human resources necessary for the war effort.

Today, America has under arms approximately 11,000,000 men of whom 7,700,000 are in the Army. Of the total Army and Navy personnel, an estimated number of approximately 5,500,000 are serving abroad. This is a force nearly three times as large as that sent overseas during World War I.

But, according to Stimson, the Army is still under-manned "measured in terms of affectiveness" due to the "increased tempo of war." That is why, he asserts, the War Department has requested that the March draft be raised to 100,000 from 80,000 set for previous months.

This is another way of saying that the Army must have more men to replace the rapidly increasing rate of casualties.

It was self-evident that the precipitous rise in the rate of attrition suffered by America, in both men and materials, as a result of intensified action in the Pacific as well as European war theaters would soon bring about serious repercussions in the U.S. manpower situation. According to reliable sources, the American army bearing the brunt of Field Marshal von Rundstedt's winter offensive has lost 500,000 men in dead and wounded, including those taken prisoners of war, since the commencement of the offensive in mid-December up to the beginning of this year. It is clear also that the frantic drive of the American army into the powerful Japanese lines in the Philippine theater is costing a fearful toll of American lives—too appalling for General MacArthur to dare admit to the American public.

Roosevelt's request for an additional 38,000 trained nurses for both branches of the armed services in his annual message to Congress is a tacit admission of the magnitude of casualties suffered by the American forces in combat. It was no less an authority than Hanson Baldwin, of the New York Times, who recently predicted that American casualties may run as high as from 100,000 to 125,000 monthly during the first part of this year.

The reader no doubt has noted with some compassion the passage in Roosevelt's state of the Union message in which he was forced to promise that "monuments will be raised to him (the American soldier) in the future." It would seem that American youth, faced with catastrophic sacrifices on the global front, has at last become skeptical of Roosevelt's megalomaniacal dreams of a world empire.

But be that as it may, the fact stands that America's losses in men is approaching tremendous proportions, causing many a headache in Washington.

Let us now turn to the home front angle of America's manpower problem. There are estimated to be at present about 55,000,000 men and women employed in the industries, of which about one-fourth are engaged in war work.

Statistics show that since the end of 1943, workers in the war industries have been flowing into peacetime jobs in ever increasing numbers in an effort to insure themselves against the hazards of unemployment during the transition period from war to normalcy, in the belief that war is nearing an end. This trend has been reflected in the decrease in production of certain articles of war such as military trucks, tanks and firearms.

Worried over this continued trend on the part of the workers to leave the war industries, Roosevelt condemned in his message to Congress as unpatriotic those who would leave the war plants and again asked that Congress pass the National Service Act which he had proposed a year ago.

Yet it was the Administration itself which had long fed the nation with constant "victories" and which had talked of 1944 as the year of "decisive victory" over the Axis. And it was the Administration itself which had inaugurated the reconversion program last summer, painting dream pictures of the postwar world for the gullible public.

The question arises as to why Roosevelt and his henchmen chose to create such an illusion of false optimism among the people, thus causing them to seek security prematurely. One answer is that the U.S. war leaders had completely miscalculated in their planning for the war and the other, that Roosevelt had been guilty of trying to paint too rosy a picture in regard to his conduct of war and the situation in general as a means of obtaining votes in his election campaign.

The reason may be either, or both. In any case it cannot contribute to the confidence of the American people in the sincerity and competence of their President and his coterie.

At any rate, though America's mobilized armed forces constitute less than ten per cent of the population, it is an error to suppose that additional manpower will be available for the fighting forces in any appreciable degree, however grave the losses at the front, without causing serious dislocations in the production schedule. Already War Mobilization Director James F. Byrnes is dipping into agricultural labor hitherto exempt from conscription for new recruits and is considering putting into uniform all males under 30, regardless of family status or occupation. And as for labor in the essential war industries it need only be pointed out that material strength, overwhelming material strength, is the prime basis of America's military strategy and any decrease in production will invite certain disaster.

JAPANESE NATION ANGRY AT BOMBING OF SHRINE

All Japan Will Never Forget Dastardly Action of Enemy, Declares Isono

Commenting on the bombing of the Toyouke Grand Shrine, Yuzo Isono, Chief of the Overseas Publicity Section of the Board of Information, declared on Monday that "the reaction in the press and among the people should be sufficient to indicate that the whole nation today surges with violent anger and indignation against the dastardly enemy who would stoop so low as to attack one of our most hallowed national shrines."

Speaking for Sadao Iguchi, Spokesman of the Board of Information, who was absent from his regular Monday foreign press conference because of a cold, Mr. Isono said, "The Toyouke Grand Shrine is one of the most holy sanctuaries of our national tradition. The enemy attack has, therefore, been made against what is [redacted] precious to us as a nation. In this profound anger the Japanese will never forget it and in their anger they are determined to put forth their highest efforts to crush the enemy and so bring victory to their country."

Mr. Isono said that the "only result of the raid yesterday is an angry Japan determined to fight to smite the enemy." Japanese anger would show itself in the form of increased war production, Mr. Isono added.

TAIWAN'S WAR EFFORTS GEARED TO WIN VICTORY

Men Train for Armed Forces While Women Busy on Production Front

With the fierce unfolding of the war situation, the resolve of Taiwan to fight the war to a decisive finish is burning at a high pitch. Taiwan, serving as an advance southern base, has revealed at the same time her true worth as a strong fortress. Not even flinching in the face of the air raids that were started by the enemy last October, she has thoroughly shown the basic power latent in her, writes a Tokyo Shimbun correspondent from Taihoku.

The desperate fighting on Leyte Island, the enemy landing made on Mindoro and now on Luzon Island right before her eyes, have laid a heavy responsibility on her as an important supply base and in this supply there must be not one slack moment. Herein lies her great mission toward the successful fulfillment of the War of Greater East Asia.

The whole population of Taiwan has been greatly inspired by the granting of honors to the Takasago Volunteer Corps and the participation of a soldier from Taiwan in the Kaoru Air Unit in the attack on an airfield on Leyte. Spurred by these actions and able at last to partake in the war by the military conscription enforced through their desire from this year, the young men of Taiwan are undergoing intense training. The young girls, too, not one whit behind in their burning patriotism, work at the riveting, drilling and repairing of airplanes. Machines that ordinarily would have gone to the junk pile have time and again been resuscitated to serve again at the front. To these young Taiwanese girls, nothing is more satisfying or a greater source of joy than to see these planes repaired by them, take off to the South.

The increased production of coal, so vital for the successful completion of the war, is an urgent war need. Taiwan, with its abundant coal supply waiting to be dug up to serve as a motive power on the fighting lines, is resolved that the output will not be slackened. Accordingly, emergency measures have been decided upon and positive steps taken for a national draft to supply required labor for increased coal production.

In Taihoku special headquarters were set up relative to this and by the assiduous efforts of the miners, the 1944 allocated tonnage of coal to be mined, was exceeded. This has been an incentive to further increased production this year.

At this time when Taiwan is entering the 50th year of the inauguration of Japanese rule, she is exerting all her powers and channeling all her energies to the filfillment of her great ask.

Longevity Canes Granted

Having attained the 80th year of age, Baron Reijiro Wakatsuki, former Prime Minister, Viscount Kikujiro Ishii, Privy Councillor, Hachisaburo Hirao, former Education Minister, and Count Saneyoshi Sanjonishi have been accorded honors of receiving the Imperial gift of longevity canes, which they are privileged to use.

Narita Succeeds Abe

Tsutomu Narita, president of the Chosen Foodstuff Corporation, Monday was appointed president of the Central Foodstuff Corporation, Tokyo, by the Agriculture and Commerce Ministry, following the resignation of Hisanori Abe.

Killed in Action

The death in action of Vice-Admiral Sadamichi Kajioka and Rear Admiral Minegoro Kameyama was announced by the Yokosuka Naval Station under date of January 16.

Yanks Bomb Own Troops

Domei

STOCKHOLM, January 14.—A number of American soldiers were killed or wounded last Wednesday when 12 Flyng Fortresses dropped 250 kilometers of bombs on U.S. positions at Weissenweiler, 13 kilometers west of Dueren, says a UP report from the Western Front published by the Daily Express of London. No official declaration is available yet from the U.S. air force, the report adds. This is the second time in one month that such a fatal error has been made.

Manila Determinedly Awaits Opportunity To Thoroughly Annihilate Invasion Force

By M. SASE
Of the Military Press Corps

MANILA, January 12.—Manila waits, fully prepared to crush the enemy. However violent the struggle the opportunity has at last arrived to strike the enemy a deadly blow. Four hundred enemy ships may swarm over the waters of Lingayen Bay and around Luzon, but Manila waits in grim and silent determination as day breaks and evening falls as usual over the city.

The quiet of the city is broken by the regular daily raids by the enemy planes, which make their first call at about 10 a.m. It is usually in a formation of about 30 B-24's. Wary of the counterattacks of Japanese fighters, the enemy used to come strongly protected by a large number of P-38's but with the enemy's intrusion into the waters west of Luzon and the concentration of the total strength of the Japanese planes as Special Attack Corps against the enemy fleets, formations of large-sized enemy planes now come attacking Manila. Flying at about 4,000 to 5,000 meters they cut across the city headed for XX Airfield. Presently, loud detonations shake entire Manila.

Those watching, bite their lip in chagrin, knowing that if there were more Japanese planes, every one of the enemy planes would be brought down. The returning enemy formation and the fresh formation pass each other in the skies over Manila.

It was on the morning of January 10 that a Japanese anti-aircraft shell hit one of the returning enemy planes. The engine spat fire and the plane trailed a white smoke against the clear azure of the skies. Soon enveloped in flames, it commenced to nose-dive earthward. The next instant the nose, the tail and the two wings disintegrated and fell in flaming masses. The second enemy formation, having finished their bombing, was now on its way back.

In our quarters we, members of the Military Press Corps, spread a big map of the Philippines on the dining room table. An enemy unit had landed in Lingayen. We wondered how the offensive and defensive warfare on Luzon would develop in view of the complicated topography of the island. Our eyes were particularly drawn to that part of the map where Manila was located.

PRESS COMMENTS

Tuesday, January 15

LET US HAVE THOROUGHGOING AIR DEFENSE MEASURES

YOMIURI-HOCHI—The road to sure victory lies in always being prepared for the worst situation, to make the best possible preparations, and to resolutely enforce necessary measures. The idea that anti-air defense is the passive side of decisive war structure should be abandoned as quickly as possible. Also the mistaken idea that air defense materials are materials of secondary importance must be quickly discarded. Without the backing of solid anti-air defense, the strengthening of production and transportation cannot be carried out efficiently. Therefore, air defense materials are production materials and the strengthening of air defense is the bolstering of transportation. This fact is now being proved at every moment.

With the scene of sanguinary battle on the national borders not far from Berlin, Germany has been experiencing large scale enemy air raids day and night. It is said that the Royal Air Force in its raids on Germany during the past year dropped 525,000 tons of bombs. The British Air Force boasts this is twice as much as was dropped during the first four and a half years of the current war. Moreover, the United States Air Forces in Europe, according to an announcement by Lieutenant General Carl Spaatz, Commander of the U.S. Strategic Air Forces for the bombing of Germany, dropped in the course of last year on Europe and the Mediterranean area as much as 998,000 tons of bombs. That is to say, in the course of last year alone, 1,500,000 tons of bombs were dropped by the Anglo-American forces in the war against Germany.

Reichsfuehrer Hitler himself has declared that due to this, German cities, large and small, have almost been reduced to ashes. Yet, in spite of this unprecedented large-scale aerial bombing, America and Britain have not only failed to gain the victory which they boasted of, but Germany has roused her mighty fighting strength and has surprised the enemy with a great counteroffensive.

Behind this great counteroffensive are the strength of the Party leadership, the maintenance and strengthening of the armaments production, the stabilization of the people's livelihood and the imperishable will of the people. And that it was the thoroughness of the anti-air defense measures which formed the basis of all this German stamina is a point which we must bear in mind.

The secret to winning victory is usually in grasping the initiative in the fighting. But to grasp this initiative, it is not enough merely to push ahead. The important thing is to foil the enemy's strategies. Grand-scale bombing has been the core of the enemy's strategies against Germany and what the enemy boastingly terms the "only and greatest new weapon in the current Great War." It is what he relies upon for subjugating Germany which is their principal objective at present.

But Germany has splendidly foiled this strategy on which the enemy had placed so much reliance.

However, this "miracle" of Germany's stamina is nothing but her thorough air defense structure. This bombing strategy employed by the enemy against Germany is what he is also trying to employ against Japan. Has not the enemy himself declared so and moreover been carrying into practice gradually?

Today we are facing the moment when we must boldly and speedily plan a grand-scale composite, sure-victory anti-air raid defense structure with the concentration of all available materials. And this anti-air raid defense plan must be considered in all our decisive war measures. Measures for strengthening our anti-air raid structure form Japan's most urgent great national policy today as the basis for a sure-victory structure. They must be carried out thoroughly by the entire nation, on a grand scale, and speedily.

SCHEME TO BORE TUNNELS UNDER YANGTZE UNDERWAY

Aim Is to Connect South and North China With Direct Railway Lines

The possibility of constructing tunnels under the Yangtze River, in the neighborhood of Nanking, to connect North and South China by direct railway lines, has now been assured as the result of geological tests conducted by Dr. Mitsugu Watanabe, president of the Physical Mineral Location Company, and other geological experts.

With the aim of improving the transportation system between North and South China, the Central China Railway Company has long been studying the problem of connecting its Tentsin-Pukow Line and the Hainan Line at Nanking, by constructing tunnels under the Yangtze.

As the first step in conducting this study, the company requested the Japanese Communications Ministry and Dr. Watanabe to commence a geological survey of the Yangtze River region in order to find a spot where the earth formation is suitable for boring operations.

Since April of last year, Dr. Watanabe, his assistants as well as experts of the Communications Ministry, conducted geological tests for more than six months, ascertaining the earth formation under the river by means of electric wave reflection apparatus. As a result of these tests a suitable spot where tunnels can be safely and easily bored under the river was found in the neighborhood of Nanking.

According to Dr. Watanabe, it would take three years to construct a tunnel under the Yangtze. He further stated that the geological tests were very difficult as the water flow was very rapid on the river bed though it was very sluggish on the surface. The use of dynamite for causing artificial shocks necessary for the tests was also a very difficult undertaking, he added.

Social and General

A lecture on Italian music during the Rennaissance period will be given by Professor Dr. Yoshio Nomura of Keio University at the Peers' Club, Kojimachi-ku, on January 23 from 1 p.m. under the auspices of the Japanese-Italian Society. Before the lecture, from 12:20 p.m., there will be a luncheon for members and special guests.

Houses to Let

Two storied foreign style houses; with 5 rooms and 6 rooms at Yamamoto-dori 2-chome; Rent ¥135.00. Also at Kitano-cho 4-chome; Rent ¥110.00. A few Japanese houses on Tor Road suitable for shops.

Offices to Let

Several office rooms to let in Kobe.

Real Estate for Sale

Several properties for sale, large and small in hand.

Apply to
H. NAKAMURA & Co., Ltd.
Estate Agents, Patent Agents and Chartered Accountants
66, Motomachi-dori 1-chome, Kobe-ku, KOBE
Tel. Sannomiya 1423, 1424, & 789
P.O. Box 161 Sannomiya

TAKARAZUKA HOTEL
Takarazuka, Hyogo-Ken
In front of Takarazuka Minamiguchi Station, Hankyu Line

ROOM RATES
Single ..... ¥ 6.00 and up
Double ..... ¥ 9.00 " "
Single with bath ¥ 8.00 " "
Double " " ¥12.00 " "

Apply to
HANKYU SANNOMIYA SERVICE STATION
Phone Fukiai 6241
HANKYU UMEDA SERVICE STATION
Phone Kita 3400
TAKARAZUKA HOTEL
Phone Takarazuka 31

We SELL or EXCHANGE New and Used Typewriters
Inaba Typewriter Co.
Tokyo: 7, Gofukubashi 3-chome, Nihonbashi-ku. Tel. 24-1951.
Yokohama: 79, Yamashita-cho, Naka-ku. Tel. 2-3901

NITTO BLACKTEA
Sole Distributors:
MITSUI BUSSAN K.K.
Manufacturers:
MITSUI NORIN K.K.

VITAMIN B1.
METABOLIN
"Strong"
TAKEDA YAKUHIN KOGYO K.K.
OSAKA, NIPPON

Classified Ads.

Advertisements or replies to the same by POSTCARD, should be TYPEWRITTEN and accompanied by the nationality, name and address of the sender in Japanese.

Real Estate, Wanted

REAL estate, bought, sold or administered. Apply to Kurasawa Real Estate Agency, 126 Furuichi-cho, Kamata-ku, Tokyo. Tel. Kamata 3517.

Wanted to Rent

SMALL foreign style furnished apartment or house for respectable Japanese bachelor. Apply Box 362, Nippon Times, Tokyo.

For Sale

COMPLETE set of news magazine Asahi covering first phase of Greater East Asia War. Apply Box 361, Nippon Times, Tokyo.

MEN'S new dark grey winter overcoat, medium and large size, imported new suit, brown, small size and dark grey large size, new blue serge suit, medium size. Apply Box 363, Nippon Times, Tokyo.

SILVER fox cape. Also ladies' dress and overcoats. Apply "Jeanne" 28, Imaicho, Azabu-ku, Wednesdays and Saturdays from 3-5 p.m.

WHITE granite material for men's large suit, men's cotton and woolen socks, and ladies' woolen and silk stockings. Available in Karuizawa, and Tokyo, apply Box 364, Nippon Times, Tokyo.

WINKEL-ZEISS metallographic microscope, apochromatic, in perfect condition, 3 objectives, 3 oculars, magnification 12x up to 500x, complete with German make rheostat, arc lamp with automatic regulation, attachment and camera for microphotography and with a Japanese make polishing machine for metal specimens. Apply Box 359, Nippon Times, Tokyo.

Instruction

FRENCH lessons and conversation given by French lady at student's or teacher's home. Apply Box 365, Nippon Times, Tokyo.

NIPPON MUSIC HIGH SCHOOL. Singing, piano, violin, and other instruments, chorus, ensemble playing, theory, composition. Class and individual teaching by foremost Japanese and foreign professors. Omori-ku Iriarai 1-chome 160. Phone Omori 66-6149.

Professional Notices

DENTAL

HIDEYOSHI Dental Office. Dr. I. Hideyoshi. Bridge and porcelain work, and general dental operations. Hours: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Hideyoshi Bldg., 8-chome, Ginza Nishi, on the street leading to the Ginza from the Imperial Hotel side entrance. Tel. Ginza (57) 1210, 2888, 3653.

K. IIZUKA, D.D.S. Specialist in crown, bridge and porcelain work. Office hours: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Room 654 (6th floor). Marunouchi Bldg., Tokyo. Tel. Marunouchi 23-0648.

MASSAGE

MASSEUR and masseuse. Will call on appointment. Legation and embassy staff and prominent foreigners are listed among our patrons. Makimura Chiryosho. 23 Sakuragawa-cho, Shiba-ku. Tel. Shiba 43-3787.

MEDICAL

HIBIYA HOSPITAL. Surgery, skin and blood diseases. Director, Dr. S. Fukase, M.D. English and German spoken. Hours: 9-11 a.m., 2-6 p.m. 3 minutes from the Imperial Hotel and Shimbashi Station. Tel. Ginza 57-2680.

PROF. Dr. K. Nakajima, skin and blood disease specialist. English, French and German spoken. Hours: 9-12 a.m., 2-5 p.m., mornings only on Sundays and National holidays. 1 Ginza-nishi 8-chome, 2nd floor of Taya Store on street car line from Sukiyabashi, a few blocks from Imperial Hotel side entrance. Tel. Ginza 57-0315.

DR. M. TAKAHASHI (A.B., M.D. Stanford University). Specialist in ear, nose, and throat. Completely equipped hospital facilities, 200 yards from Meguro Tram-stop. Shimo-meguro, 1-119, Meguro-ku, Tokyo. Hours by appointment only. Osaki, 49-0417.

Nippon Times

Published by The Nippon Times, Ltd.

TOKYO OFFICE:
2, Hibiya, Uchisaiwai-cho, Kojimachi-ku, Central P.O. Box 144, 352, 358.
Telephone: Ginza (57) 393, 403, 5857, 5858, 5859, 7003.
Telegraphic Address: "Times Tokyo-yubin."
Furikae No. Tokyo 64848.

BRANCH OFFICES:
OSAKA: Dojima Bldg. Tel. Kita 1770.
KOBE: 65, Naniwa-machi, Kobe-ku. Tel. Sannomiya 2370-7.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
One month, ¥6.00; six months, ¥35.00; one year, ¥68.00. Postage free to all parts of the Japanese Empire, Manchukuo, China and the Southern Regions. For foreign countries, postage, ¥1.50 per month extra. All subscriptions are payable in advance.

Publisher and Printer
SHOICHI KAWAMURA

TOKYO, TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 1945

America's Economic Plan For Chungking

The declaration in the recent issue of the Foreign Policy Reports published in New York that "the United States will be in a favorable position to meet sharp foreign competition for Chinese markets" is a graphic demonstration of the sinister economic designs which the United States harbors toward Chungking. The weakening of the major capital exporters of the world except the United States will make it impossible for Chungking to undertake rapid industrialization without borrowing the major portion of its foreign capital from American sources, thus making it possible for the United States to preempt "by far the largest role in China's trade," the periodical blandly asserts.

This stark revelation of the United States' plan for the capitalistic invasion of the Chinese mainland is, indeed, a grim portent of the future economic position of Chungking. It is a definite indication of the United States' determination to monopolize the trade of China to the exclusion of other countries, including her present allies, and at the expense of Chungking itself.

How aggressively intent the United States is in carrying out her economic designs on China has been brought out with blunt force on numerous occasions since the visit made by Vice-President Henry A. Wallace to Chungking in June of last year. Entering the rebel Chinese capital through Sinkiang, Wallace significantly declared that "I have entered China through the back door but I believe that developments in coming years will prove me right in saying that I have entered through a new front door—the door facing Central Asia." This statement was obviously a clear-cut indication that the United States was also laying down plans for the economic invasion of Sinkiang, the outer dependency of China, even by squeezing out Soviet influence from that territory. In fact, by the fall of last year, the United States eventually succeeded in forcing Chiang Kai-shek to remove pro-Soviet General Sheng Shih-tsai from the governorship of that province and in installing an obliging pro-Chiang governor in his place.

That the extension of America's economic frontiers "from Minneapolis, the coast states and Alaska through Siberia and China as well as all the way to Central Asia" is the new ambition of the United States, there can be no question. President Franklin Roosevelt, in his speech at Puget Sound in August of last year, was himself authority for the remark that there is a great, magnificant future for American industrialists and capitalists in the "commerce between our shores and those of Siberia and China." The dispatch of former Director of the War Production Board, Donald Nelson, as subsequent events have borne out, was definitely a scheme to pave the way for the materialization of this grandiose ambition which will ensure to the peoples of the United States fat profits and luxuries at the expense of the people of China. This selfish ambition of the United States was nowhere more clearly revealed than in the recent editorial of the New York Journal of Commerce. Speaking apparently in behalf of American industrialists and financiers who hope to make an investment of approximately $2,000,000 annually in the Pacific area, the greater portion of which would be made in China, the Journal of Commerce denounced the speech made at the Chungking Rotary Club by Dr. Sun Fo, head of the Chungking Legislative Yuan, in which he declared that "it has now been decided that all industries would be open to state and private enterprises alike except for a limited number of enterprises which are regarded as strictly state undertakings." This criticism of the Journal of Commerce against Chungking's policy to prevent the American capitalists from taking over the key Chinese industries is clearly proof that the United States will not be satisfied with anything less than complete economic domination of China. The Journal of Commerce even hints that the economic assistance of the United States will be withheld from Chungking when it declares that Chungking's new industrial policy could have a discouraging effect upon the development in the postwar period of new Chinese industries.

The future of the Chungking regime in the Anglo-American economic order is, indeed, gloomy. It is evident from the policies which the United States intends to pursue in postwar China that the Chungking regime will be robbed of every semblance of political and economic power. The control which Chiang Kai-shek intends to maintain over some of the key industries in China is no doubt a measure directed toward frustrating the designs of the United States, but it is obvious at the same time that Chungking, which lacks the real physical power with which to resist the American Colossus, will be forced in the end to become an economic tool of the United States.

The warning is, therefore, clear-cut. If the Chungking regime is to enjoy real economic prosperity, it can only do so by taking the road suggested in the Joint Declaration of the Greater East Asiatic Nations. Economic independence, in the true sense of the term, can not be found in the Anglo-American order. This has been the experience and the realization of all the nations of Greater East Asia. Chungking, too, must soon awaken to this cold fact or face excruciating hardships and humiliations in the future at the hands of the Anglo-American countries.

A Year Ago Today
January 16, 1944

It was revealed that Canada, with a view to playing her role in the forthcoming anti-Axis counter-offensive against Japan, has decided to offer her naval bases to the British navy. In this connection, the Canadian Navy Ministry announced that the construction of naval facilities in British Columbia is under way.

* * *

Not less than 200 lives were lost and at least 50 to 70 per cent of the standing buildings were demolished at San Juan, Argentina, by a severe earthquake that shook a wide area extending throughout the western part of Argentina on January 16.

* * *

General Dwight Eisenhower, who was appointed Supreme Commander of the anti-Axis Forces in Europe, has formally assumed his post, the anti-Axis Headquarters announced.

* * *

Prime Minister and concurrently Minister of Munitions General Hideki Tojo expressed hearty congratulations on the establishment of the Aeronautical Industry Association and promised every Government support and aid, at the inaugural meeting of the new organization held at the Isetan Building, Shinjuku, Tokyo.

* * *

Continuing their round-the-clock attacks on the enemy air forces in the Pacific, the Japanese Army Air Units in the New Guinea area blasted the enemy airfields and their installations at Madzab, Marawase and Tenit, the Imperial Headquarters announced. In this operation, the Japanese Army Air Units shot down six enemy aircraft, besides damaging and setting afire 34 others.

* * *

It was disclosed that British Prime Minister Churchill, accompanied by Lord Beaverbrook and Alfred Duff-Cooper, arrived in Morocco and conferred with Charles de Gaulle, Chairman of the French Committee for National Liberation on January 12 at Marrakesh, Morocco.

* * *

Fruits of Wisdom

The greatest incitement to guilt is the hope of sinning with impunity.—Cicero

* * *

If honesty did not exist, we ought to invent it as the best means of getting rich.—Mirabeau

* * *

Habit, to which all of us are more or less slaves.—Fontaine.

YANKEE CHARACTER

Leading Novels Give an Insight Into American Life

By FUJITARO HOSOIRI

II

"The Georgia Negro," a jail diary of a Negro, written in a form of a novel by John Spivalk, a dramatist, in 1932, fully exposes a side of America's character in the brutal treatment of the Negro. The inserted pictures in the novel are also an aid in revealing this American character.

Steinbeck gradually became to be recognized in the literary circles when he published a novel entitled, "Of Mice and Man" in 1937. His O. Henry Prize novel, "Promise," is a small piece which describes the organism of a horse, the birth of a colt and has a boy as the chief actor. The novel was appreciated for having adroitly described the romantic world of children. A large number of living creatures appear in the novel which is also characteristic of other works by Steinbeck.

Snakes, insects and horses play the main role in this novel. As Edmond Wilson, the critic, has pointed out, this tendency is also to be perceived in Steinbeck's early works up to the "Grapes of Wrath." His novels give the suggestion to the reader that the American people, suffering under life's heavy burden or bored with its ennui, find a pleasure in hunting wild animals and making them their pets and that the life of the Americans in the West is one with nature.

Why is it that all the characters of Steinbeck's appearing in his recent works, "War Without Victory" (1936) and "Grapes of Wrath" (1939) meet with unexpected deaths? "War Without Victory" describes the lives of two friends who fall victims in a general strike. Steinbeck's of "Mice and Men" (1939) depicts a tragedy which occurs from the animal violence of a fool who is not conscious of himself, and the feelings of a mouse. "Grapes of Wrath" is a story describing the life of a family drifting along from Oklahoma, the home of their forefathers. It is a tragic episode created by cold-blooded American capitalism.

Veblen once said that American aristocrats are capitalists. Politics, economics and culture in America are one and inseparable and this is a frank expression of the political influence of American capitalists. This is the motive power behind the aforementioned novels. The cause of unexpected and ruthless deaths lies in the violence and animal character of the Americans themselves.

Lust for Savagery

"War Without Victory" is a struggle against violence hidden behind American capitalists. "Of Mice and Men" is a collision of ignorance, violence and savagery. "Grapes of Wrath" originates in a sandstorm caused by ravished forests, an act of treachery against Nature, and is an interflow of ignorance, violence and wildness. These novels express the American character which lusts after savagery, blood and animal life. Our explanation of the American character is still insufficient. Let us, therefore, discuss Hemmingway, who is more real than Steinbeck who is deeply affected by romanticism.

Hemmingway was a popular, first-rate writer in the United States since the outbreak of the Greater East Asia War. The characters in Hemmingway's literary works have not the slightest conscience. This is especially remarkable in his "Haves And Have-Nots." His characters all move in accord with their animal instincts. They voice childish utterances, do not possess the thinking capacity to analyse or reflect and are without faith or morals. They are living on the surface of natural instincts and do not have the complexity of individuality, feeling or experience. The fact that Hemmingway has created such characters into boxers, bull-fighters, hunters, fishermen and vagrants consolidates his position in American literature, together with his peculiar talent of using live conversation.

The following sentences are frequently used by Hemmingway when depicting the characters which appear in his novels. "He never had an iota of sympathy toward others. He also did not have the feeling of pity for himself." Hemmingway has frequently likened his characters to animals. The goal to which Hemmingway has finally arrived is that the highest praise which can be conferred on man is to say that he is like an animal.

(To Be Concluded)

Drink.

"Do you think drinking affects the disposition," asked one imbiber to another.

And the other responded: "Sure, my wife's disposition has certainly changed since I started drinking."

Their Nature

"If you want to be popular, be mysterious," is a woman columnist's advice to girls. Or in other words, girls—just be yourselves.

INTERNAL TURMOIL IN CHUNGKING

Dispute With Yenan Is Big Cancer to Chiang—Possibility of Compromise Is Remote

(By A SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR)

The third plenary session of the People's Political Council was held at Chungking for two weeks beginning from September 5. This council which has the mission of maintaining cooperation between the Chungking regime and the people during the war with Japan, is a transition organ which will in the future be replaced by the national assembly. The session of this council was a fiery one due to the grave difficulties now confronting Chungking.

The difficulties faced by Chungking after its seven years of war with Japan may be summed up as coming from the following domestic and external situations: (1) The operations of the Japanese expeditionary forces in China carried out during 1944, including the provinces of Honan, Hunan, Kwangtung and Kwangsi, operations which divided the country into two and which resulted in the destruction of United States air bases; (2) The United States' attempt to maintain an overall domination over the Chungking forces, including air and ground forces and the possibility that the Chungking troops may become colonial troops of the United States; (3) Although the adjustment of the relations between the Chungking Kuomintang and the Chinese Communist Party is considered as urgent for the unification of the war fronts against Japan, the issue has in reality, enlarged the voice of the Yenan regime, thereby vexing the Chungking regime, and (4) The Chungking regime has been facing the greatest military, political and economic crisis in its domestic affairs since the commencement of its opposition to Japan, as admitted by Chiang Kai-shek himself and pointed out by the United States.

Chiang's Speech

In his speech before the People's Political Council, Chiang Kai-shek spoke to the following effect:

"The battle on the continent of China has entered its decisive stage. We do not deny the military defeat we suffered during the last half of the past one year. Nor do we deny the fact that our resistance against Japan has met the biggest snag at present. Our economic weaknesses have recently become manifest and we have no desire to hide them. But we should make use of our past bitter experiences in order to make good our military and economic failures as a great lesson in our endeavors to reconstructions. In regard to this matter, I wish to stress the necessity of our national unification. The unification of China is an indispensable condition for our victory and it is absolutely necessary for international cooperation. Without military unification, there can be no victory. Without political unification, success in the reconstruction of China is impossible of attainment. For those reasons, we cannot tolerate any one who should impede the realization of this unification."

In these words of Chiang Kai-shek are best revealed the paradoxes of his regime. The first five days of the session were devoted to the reports by the government on its various policies and their discussions, and during the next four days bills numbering more than 200 were discussed. The government policies for the next year were concentrated on the following three main points: (1) the consolidation of the all-out mobilization; (2) measures for the reorganization and building of armies, and (3) the stabilization of prices. Vehement debate was carried on around these basic points, according to reports from Chungking.

As regards the military reform which constitutes the central problem of the war against Japan, the main issues were over the separation of military and political affairs, better treatment for troops and the conscription of students. The first of these, namely, the separation of military and political affairs, is to be brought about by detaching the position of the chief of the war zone from the headship of the province and appointing separate persons for these two positions. This reform is intended to bring about an improvement in Chungking's military organization. But this also endorses the ambitions of the United States which is planning to place the Chungking army and air forces under her command. A United Press dispatch from Chungking under date of September 4 stated: "Although the modernization of the Chungking troops had been planned out a long time ago, they still retain a great deal of remnants of old military cliques, and their organization and methods of supply are out of date. The United States should give American equipment to the reorganized Chungking forces and the command over them should be taken over by the United States forces."

It goes without saying that it would be very convenient for the United States forces in China to have the commanders of the Chungking war zones separated from the political affairs of Chungking provinces, in order to have command over the Chungking forces.

Reorganization of Army

Decisions were also reached by the council for the reorganization of the Chungking forces taking divisions as units instead of armies, for the replacement of the aged commanders by more vigorous younger leaders for the purpose of strengthening the power of the Chungking forces and for the enforcement of a new military service act in the conscription of more intelligent people who can be trained along American lines. The purpose of the new military service act is best shown by the slogan used by Chiang Kai-shek that "one student-soldier is better than ten farmer-soldiers. This is evidence of the necessity which has been imposed upon Chungking to reduce its military forces as a result of the Japanese successes in capturing the granaries of Honan and Hunan provinces. In making a report of the supply of food provisions, Hsu Chan, Minister of Food, confessed that the Chungking regime faces a grave food situation and as if in reply to this confession, Ho Ying-chin the then War Minister, stressed the need of military reorganization and of armies of picked men.

In the reports made on financial and economic affairs by the head of the Economic Department, it was revealed that because of the great transportation difficulties created since the outbreak of the Greater East Asia War and also due to the run-away inflation, industries in the interior regions have received a heavy blow. Especially since the beginning of 1944 both the factories and mines have been faced by a tremendous difficulty. He thus revealed the impotency of the various government economic measures due to lack of materials and the inflation. Interpellation by the members of the council was naturally concentrated on this point and the following economic recommendations were proposed and adopted:

1. Consideration should be paid by the government to the livelihood of the masses in carrying out the control of materials.
2. Protection should be extended to agricultural villages which have been hard hit by their payment of taxes in farm products and the forced government purchase of their farm produce; and by adjusting the maximum prices of materials, the relations between supply and demand should be made smooth in order to strengthen the basis of Chungking's war economy.
3. The economic inspection corps should be either abolished or restricted.
4. Inspection organs for the northwestern parts of the Chungking area should be unified for the purpose of making the transportation of goods smooth.
5. The method of government economic control should be improved.
6. Government purchase of raw cotton should be based on current prices and the purchasing prices of wool should be raised.

Dissatisfaction Revealed

The noteworthy feature of the council session was that dissatisfaction over the methods of government economic control was revealed grimly and without reserve by its members. Desire was expressed in favor of the establishment of an investigation committee on foreign loans and gold bullions imported from the United States from Chungking. The council passed a resolution prohibiting the assumption of the office of president of the central bank by the Minister of Finance, thereby giving vent to animosity against Dr. H. H. Kung, the then Minister of Finance. On the last day of the session, the proposal was made that Chungking should negotiate with the United States in order to confiscate the deposits amounting to $300,000,000, made by some unscrupulous Chungking officials and Chinese merchants with the American banks. Thus, the dissatisfaction of the masses against the great wealth possessed by Chiang Kai-shek, T. V. Soong and other members of the Soong family was shown openly and without reserve.

It is only too natural that the greatest problem at the session was the problem of adjusting the relations between Chungking and Yenan. It had been well known that the American side had been regarding the strife between Chungking and the Chinese Communist Party as cancer in the Pacific strategy of the anti-Axis forces and had been advising Chiang Kai-shek to bring about the desired adjustment of their relations. Chungking itself had felt the need of doing something in order to avoid its otherwise imminent crisis. However, the preliminary negotiations with Yenan in last spring and the conversations between the representatives of the two factions at Chungking since June had faced an apparent deadlock. In the face of these circumstances, Chiang's reference to the need of political unification in his speech before the council meeting seemed to indicate his determination to bring about a political solution of the problem. His speech also indicated that in reality no progress had been actually made in adjusting its relations with the Chinese Reds.

It was under such circumstances that the reports were made by the representatives of both the Chungking Kuomintang and the Chinese Communist Party at the council session. There were some 8,000 people in the gallery, said to be the largest public gathering ever held in Chungking.

First, Lin Tsu-han, representative of the Chinese Communist Party, spoke as follows:

"Yenan welcomed the resolution made at the Eleventh Plenary Session of the Central Executive and the Supervisory Committees of the Chungking Kuomintang that the problem of the Kuomintang and the Chinese Communist Party should be solved politically and it was according to this desire that I came to Chungking as the representative of Yenan. Conversations centered on the organization and size of the Yenan army. The proceedings of the meeting were recorded and I was asked to sign it. I signed the record as the conference was the result of our conversations, but the Chungking representatives did not sign their names on the ground that there was no agreement. Upon receiving my report, the Yenan side opened a conference of its heads and formulated a document containing 20 points. But the Chungking representatives maintained that the last eight points would too greatly irritate Chungking and struck them out, and we carried on negotiations orally. But for some reason I know not this Yenan document was not shown to Chiang Kai-shek."

Against this charge made by Lin Tsu-han, Chungking representative Chang Chih-chung said:

"We decided at the Hsian Conference to record the opinion of Lin Tsun-han and after he had put his signature to put our names to the document also. Lin signed his but we had to consult Chungking before signing our names."

Provisions of Document

He then made public the document which was signed by Lin and which contained the following substance:

1. Yanan's 18th Army group should be reorganized and carry on the war against Japan at their original positions.
2. Personnel changes should be made by the heads of war zones according to the personnel regulations of Chungking.
3. Munitions supplies are to be distributed equally to the reorganized Yenan forces as to the Chungking troops.
4. The name of Shen-Kan-Ning border district should be changed to the Shenpei administrative district and should be placed under the jurisdiction of the Executive Yuan instead of the Shensi provincial government.
5. No troops of the foregoing district or of the 18th Army groups shall issue paper notes after they have received payments for the reorganization of the Yenan Army. The notes already issued are to be disposed of by the Finance Ministry.
6. The administrative organization of the Shen-Kan-Ning border district shall not be changed for the time being. The legal position of the Chinese Communist Party shall be recognized in accordance with the Rules of Construction of Chungking, immunity from arrest shall be upheld for its members, freedom of expression shall be assured to them and all those who have been imprisoned in connection with the New Fourth Army Incident shall be freed and protection shall be given to the family members of the soldiers of the 18th Army group and the New Fourth Army.
7. A national convention will be opened after the war according to the resolution of the Chungking regime; and the Chinese Communist Party as well as other political parties will observe the laws of the State and will be given equal treatment.

As regards the process of negotiations, both Chungking and Yenan repeated their criticisms of each other. For instance, as regards the problem of military organization for Yenan, whereas the Communist Party representative advocated its plan for the reorganization of its forces into 16 divisions or six army corps composed of 470,000 men, the Chungking representative stated that Yenan shall have only 10 divisions of four army corps. Moreover, whereas the Chungking side demanded the concentration at a given spot of the recognized Yenan forces at a specified time, the Yenan side flatly refused to comply with this demand. Again, the demand of the Yenan regime for recognition of the legality of its status and the recognition of the already organized administrative districts were rejected by Chungking. There is thus no way to end the strife of the regimes because of their fundamental differences; whereas Yenan demands its independence and autonomous right on the basis of democratic principles, the Chungking faction wishes to bring about unification in military and political affairs in the name of national interests in carrying on the war against Japan. This hostile stand of the two camps involves the question of who shall be sovereign over the area.

The verbal war staged by both sides at the session of the council ended with the adoption of a proposal for sending a committee of investigation to Yenan composed of Hu Lin, publisher of the Ta Kung Pao, who is neutral and other four members of the council including Li Wan-yun.

On the 12th day of the council session Chiang Kai-shek dwelt on the relations of Chungking with the Soviet Union. After stressing the need of the enhancement of friendly relations between the Soviet Union and Chungking, he stated that Chungking is attempting to adjust the various outstanding problems with the Soviet Union and predicted that an improvement will be shortly established in their mutual relations. The council adopted a resolution on the last day of the session urging the consolidation of collaboration between Chungking and the Soviet Union, and suggested five measures to be carried out speedily by Chungking, including a plan of sending a friendly mission to Moscow. A Chungking journal on the following day stressed the necessity of closer friendship between the Soviet Union and Chungking. On the other hand, an A.P. dispatch from Washington startled Chungking officialdom by the following: "In order to prevent Chungking from falling out of the anti-Axis camp, it is imperative that the Chungking troops be placed under the command of Lieutenant General Joseph Stilwell. Also, in order to mobilize the Yenan forces against Japan, it is necessary to consolidate the Yenan regime in order to enable it to form a coalition government with Chungking, and for this, if necessary, the resignation of Chiang Kai-shek may become necessary".

This dispatch is a given expression of public opinion in America regarding the crisis of the Chiang regime. Chungking's courting the Soviet Union is a frantic act of replying to the American demands for its closer tie with the Chinese Reds.

TRAGEDY OF ERRORS

Britain Should Bring About Union of Opposition Parties

(By A SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR)

II

Both sides are resolute in their loyalty to the cause of the United Nations, and in their hostility to the Fascist and Nazi despoilers of their country; and both sides—at least that against which the British military force is not being used—made signal contributions to the expulsion of the German enemy from Greek territory.

In an article written before the disturbances by our correspondent in Athens, it showed that the crux of the matter lay in the continued existence of independent armed forces of the Right and Left—EAM and ELAS. In view of the intense mutual mistrust between them, it was clear that the only hope of domestic peace lay in the disarming of both groups, and that this could be carried out only by imparting authority on which both equally are represented and in which both had confidence.

This uneasy compromise formed the basis of the Papandreou Government until the end of last week when the ministers representing the EAM of the coalition of the Left parties, resigned.

The proceedings which led to their resignation are subjects of disputes; but it was evidently prompted by the belief that the government intended to disband or incorporate in the other units of the armed forces of the Left, while keeping in being those associated with the Right.

These events, unhappily coincided with the issue of General Ronald Scobie's proclamation of undertaking to give military support to the Papandreou Government—an undertaking which could be justified as long as that government was, in fact a representative coalition but which, when that coalition broke up Saturday, encouraged the unhappiest but widespread impression that the British Government and the British Army were preparing to support Papandreou against his former partners in coalition.

Minor Clashes Break Out

This impression was not removed by the failure of the British Forces to intervene at the time of the police action against the demonstrators on Sunday, though the British officers are known to have voiced their disapproval of that action. It was unhappily followed by several minor clashes between the British units and the ELAS and by the centralization of the ELAS forces outside of Athens which was thought to constitute a threat to the capital.

On Monday, Papandreou quite properly resigned and invited Sophoulis, a veteran Liberal leader, to form a new government. Up to this point, the situation, though grave, seemed still not altogether out of hand. On the way of retrieving, it was clearly to reconstitute a coalition between the Right and the Left, and this Sophoulis set out to do.

According to a statement issued by him on Tuesday, he had already secured the assent of various parties. Then, the British Ambassador, informed him that "According to the latest instructions from the British Prime Minister, any change at present in the head of the Greek Government was impossible." This message subsequently was confirmed by General Ronald Scobie who vainly endeavored to persuade Sophoulis to join Papandreou's depleted cabinet.

Much in this disastrous train of events still awaits fuller information and explanation. What promoted General Scobie, with endorsement of the British Government, to issue last week the proclamation which could be read, and undoubtedly was read as a threat to the support of Papandreou's at all costs against his rivals on the Left?

What exactly was the nature of the decision which caused the ministers of the EAM to resign? Why, after Papandreou's resignation, was a veto imposed on all attempts to find an alternative government? Were any steps taken to consult the other principal powers of the United Nations? The answers to these questions will be doubtless forthcoming in a debate in the House of Commons and no final judgement was possible until they had been given.

Greece Is Unlike Belgium

But it is not too soon to say that, great as were the inherent difficulties of the situation in Greece, any British Government which claimed to insist, at the time when the popular elections were admittedly impossible, on this or that individual or group has alone qualified to conduce a government of a friendly nation which would accept the grave responsibility which accords ill with the British tradition.

Some anxiety has been caused here by the ban placed on Count Carlo Sforza as Foreign Minister in the Italian Government. This anxiety was increased by the abrupt revelation from the United States State Department that this unusual step represented exclusively the British initiative and that undisclosed reasons for it were not accepted by the American Government, as an instrument of any Belgian Government.

Greece is not at present, like Belgium, an advanced base for the major military operations. It would be all the more difficult to sustain a plan of urgent necessity to set up some kind of an authoritative regime, whether representative or not, in order to leave the armies free to carry on their supreme task of defeating the enemy; and it would be hazardous in the extreme to argue that there is greater Allied interest in the upholding of the Papandreou Government than of any other of the numerous groups or parties in the Greek politics.

What is, however, ultimately serious, is the repercussions of the present action, both on the future relations between Great Britain and Greece, and on the good name of the British throughout Europe.

Premier George Papandreou's Government was formed outside of the country, while its present opponents were taking a gallant part in the battles of resistance on Greek soil; it was brought to Greece under foreign auspices. These are inevitable handicaps to the popularity of any government.

If Premier Papandreou is now maintained in power by a ban of a foreign government on any alternative, his moral authority in Greece can hardly survive, and the British troops will have been used, and the British lives sacrificed in fighting against the Greeks on behalf of the Greek Government which exists only in virtue of military force. Neither Greece nor Britain can afford such an issue of this tragic struggle.

The grievous errors, some recent, some of a longer date, have been committed. For the Greek parties, the imperative task is to re-establish a government fairly representative of both wings under the head acceptable to both and thus bring about a situation in which the desperately needed measures of relief and reconstruction can be undertaken.

For the British Government, the paramount duty, and only one consonant with British tradition and British interest, is to seek to bring about such a reunion and, at all costs, avoid taking sides in the Greek conflict.

For the British Army, the only conceivable move in the face of every difficulty and every privation, is one of strict neutrality and to favor none. It is time, before it is too late, to find a way out of the disastrous predicament whose consequence will be felt quickly in the neighboring countries and beyond.

(To Be Concluded)